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Christmas Party Guide

NATIONAL EYE HEALTH WEEK
MONDAY 24TH - SUNDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2018
YOUR VISION MATTERS

Resident's fury as council make decision to close public toilets in Porthcawl

PEOPLE in Porthcawl are in open rebellion with the town's local authority, Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC), after its decision to close the town's main public toilets in John Street – unless the town council takes them over.

There has been a furious reaction on social media, an online petition has already been started, and Porthcawl Town Council has released an angry statement, protesting at the sudden decision.

A spokeswoman for Porthcawl Town Council told The GEM that the statement had been agreed by the council.

The statement read: "*Despite the decision being made by BCBC's cabinet in June, Porthcawl Town Council was not contacted until a month later with the news that John Street toilets were to close, leaving the town council with very little time to consider its options.*

"Porthcawl Town Council is already in advanced discussions with BCBC over acquiring the Griffin Park toilets – a process which has been protracted by the sheer level of neglect to which those toilets have been subjected.

"It is now clear that Porthcawl Town Council will have to literally rebuild Griffin Park toilets when it takes them over within the next few months – as the building has been left to decay to such an extent.

"Porthcawl Town Council has recently worked closely with Awen Trust to re-open the public toilets beneath the Grand Pavilion on Porthcawl seafront so that residents and visitors alike have access to much-needed public conveniences. The toilets at Rest Bay will be re-developed as part of the new watersports centre.

"Despite the millions of pounds that Porthcawl has provided to BCBC over the years in council tax and car parking revenue, the failure to maintain Griffin Park toilets and John Street toilets is just another example of Labour-controlled BCBC's shameful neglect of Porthcawl.

"At this month's town council meeting held at the Y Centre on John Street, a number of town councillors understandably asked "where has all the money gone?"

The statement continued, looking at BCBC's decision to contribute £11.3 million (over approximately 10 years) to the City deal, which involves a total spend of £1.2 billion in the south Wales region, over £1 billion coming from the Welsh and UK governments.

A number of town councillors have made their feelings clear on this previously, feeling that Porthcawl is on the fringe of the area, and will get very little of the infrastructure spending.

The statement continued: "*BCBC's shocking decision to plough £11.3 million into the City Deal from which Porthcawl or even Bridgend is unlikely to reap any benefit, becomes even more questionable when seen in light of callous cuts to local services and facilities like this.*

"Councillors were left aghast that BCBC has failed to consider a range of options for these iconic public conveniences housed in a listed building, especially in a seaside town that has a large resident and tourist population made up of both young families and elderly residents, deciding instead to axe them and issue redundancy notices to its staff.

"Despite being under a statutory duty to publish a local toilets strategy pursuant to the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017, BCBC has still yet to do so. However, it seems its only strategy is to continue closing public toilets and expect local private businesses to open up their toilets to the public."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Tondu's Tracey is a fundraiser extraordinaire!

Amazing fundraisers Tracey Davies and daughter-in-law Emily Davies.

by TIM CHAPMAN
07891 690798
or email
tim.chapman@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

A TONDU woman, helped by family and the local community, has raised an astonishing £145,000 since September 2017 for Velindre Cancer Care.

Tracey Davies (48) a social worker at the Royal Gwent Hospital, began fundraising for charities a number of years ago after two particular events in her life – a family tragedy and a friend's daughter having a serious illness.

In fact, Tracey's latest fundraising venture, a trip to Cambodia in a few weeks' time, will be tinged with sadness because her friend Anne, who was due to accompany her, died of cancer recently.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Council propose axing ALL local bus subsidies - turn to page 28 for the story

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Cheque handover at St John's

ANDREW Singer, chairman of the St John's Church summer fair committee presented Ruth Birch, 'Peoples' Warden' of the parish of Newton Nottage, Porthcawl with a cheque for £9,730.87 in respect of the money raised at the fair in July, during an evening in the schoolroom.

Ruth accepted the cheque on behalf of the parish and thanked everyone who had worked so hard to make the fair a success. The summer fair took place on Newton Green. Hundreds of people attended and helped raise the money for the upkeep of the 800-year-old parish church of St John the Baptist.

Andrew said that the committee were so grateful for their support. The fair was opened by a Tom Jones act, and entertainment came from the Rock Choir, Porthcawl Community Orchestra, Elindia's Belly Dancers, Loopy Lews, the Performance House Youth Group and The Tug of War competition between The Ancient Briton and The Jolly Sailor.

The Ancient Briton team was victorious in the ladies' event and the Jolly Sailor team won the men's contest.

AS

Waggy Walk to help support Dogs Trust

DOG owners in Bridgend and surrounding areas are invited to take part in a dog walk to raise money for Dogs Trust.

On Sunday, October 7 Dogs Trust Bridgend will be holding its annual Waggy Walk around Parc Slip nature reserve to raise cash for the dogs at the Pen-y-Fai Rehoming Centre.

A spokesperson said: "The two-mile walk is suitable for the young and old and takes around two hours, and we hope as many people as possible will be able to join us."

The walk will start at 10.30am and costs £5 per family, with all money raised going towards the dogs in the care of the charity.

Walkers can turn up and pay on the day, but can also pre-register by contacting rhiannon.lavis@dogstrust.org.uk or linda.feagan@dogstrust.org.uk, or by calling 01656 728923.

AS

Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Council views sports pitch as a 'cash cow'

I FELT I should write after seeing the front page story in the Bridgend and Porthcawl GEM on September 13.

The story highlighted the increased costs of maintenance to BCBC sports pitches and how the money being collected from clubs did not cover the costs. The council would like clubs to take responsibility for the maintenance through community asset transfers.

Pencoed Rugby Club has been established for 130 years this year; it has a thriving youth and mini rugby section and has been asking to take over the maintenance and running of the main pitch, which is council owned.

For a number of years, the council has denied all applications, as it wishes to sell off the pitch for development. It also appears to have plans to sell off further pitches at woodlands fields, again for housing development.

I would be interested to know how Mark Shephard, BCBC communities director, would square the removal of a community resource such as this local rugby club pitch.

It is used by large numbers of local children, encourging and promoting a sense of community; or indeed how building over sports grounds promotes a healthy and socially inclusive lifestyle for our young people.

It would appear that, far from being valued as an important community resource, Pencoed and the county's sports pitches are more highly valued as a council cash cow.

Paul Goulden,
Pencoed.

'Put an end to Brexit uncertainty' - GEM reader

I thoroughly enjoyed reading Westminster Notebook last week, penned by our hard working MP, Madeleine Moon.

What caught my attention in particular was the visit our MP paid to the Ford factory. With the Jaguar Land Rover story fresh in my mind from coverage in the national press, this story hit home.

The damage this ill-thought through Brexit is causing already because of uncertainty in the markets is deeply disturbing.

"It won't affect us, don't worry," has been the attitude of some friends and neighbours and just doesn't wash with me anymore, and I suspect many other readers feel similarly – worried sick.

I was really shocked to read about how volatility in the pound, caused by uncertainty, has such a huge impact on a company. A modest 0.01 percentage change in actuality means a loss of millions of pounds!

What action realistically is Ford going to take faced with such losses? Thinking more widely, what incentive is there for any company to invest here, especially as it has been reported in the press and on the news that a hard Brexit could cause a recession similar to 2008?

I was impressed how productive the plant was, with four engines, every two minutes… but then I went cold to the pit of my stomach hearing how car parts go back and forth across Europe many times before a car is completed. For this, we obviously need no border delays and seamless trading.

I for one didn't hear these facts spoken about when we were told how easy Brexit was going to be.

I don't trust those who told us it would be straightforward and wonderful. Uncertainty and a disorderly Brexit will, to my mind, a disaster for this area.

The only solution I can see is to have a proper informed debate and then a People's Vote on any deal.

We need to put an end to the uncertainty which will cripple industry in our area and destroy jobs and prosperity

A Felton,
Bridgend.

'Anti-Brexit groups hold the Leave contingent in contempt'

I WAS interested in MP Madeline Moon's passing reference in The GEM of Andrew Adonis' recent visit to her constituency.

I was also there, and experienced the outstanding hypocrisy apparent at the Sony Theatre in Bridgend.

Yes, believe it or not, Bridgend has a theatre.

Not that you'll see much in the way of entertainment put on there – keep travelling to Maesteg and Porthcawl for that, courtesy of Bridgend council tax payers.

Madeline Moon was accompanied by Win Griffiths, BCBC Leader Cllr Huw David and Cllr Cheryl Green. Interestingly, Carwyn Jones was absent.

They were practicing the line that those who want a People's Vote are the true democrats.

What are the Brexiteers afraid of, asked the illustrious leader of BCBC?

For starters, there's much concern over what further cuts to services does he intend to push through while handing £11 million over to the Cardiff City deal.

What is he doing to address the drugs and knife violence that's becoming more frequent in Bridgend?

He's more interested in echoing the wishes of big business and foreign billionaires to overturn the referendum result.

It's glaringly obvious that Bridgend for Europe is well funded and populated by a mix of retired and current academics, politicians and the like, who are doing very nicely thank you, and in reality hold nothing but disdain for the great unwashed who had the temerity not to vote as they were told.

Be aware of their belief they can extend Article 50 and permit the slippery MPs to cobble up a dodgy new referendum question to split the Brexit vote.

Brexiteers – stick to your principles and once again dismiss the calls of the vested interests and hold out for a decent Brexit.

Ian Williams,
Llangrallo.

Reader thanks the cleaning power of The GEM!

I WANTED to thank The GEM for the recent story regarding the bins at Jubilee Crescent.

The bins are collected regularly and the site is very clean. I know this might be a response to your enquiries and it may go back to what it was, but for now it's literally a breath of fresh air.

Darren Punter, Bridgend.

Walking in the Garw Valley

THE Wales Valleys Walking Festival will this year finish in Bridgend county, offering walkers some of the area's most breathtaking views in the south Wales valleys.

The festival, which offers 16 walks around the south Wales valleys, will finish with The Garw Valley Circular Walk on September 23.

The 11km circular route is expected to take around three-and-a-half to four hours while showing some of Bridgend county's most scenic views from both sides of the valley.

The Garw Valley circular route is moderate in difficulty and will use a combination of public footpaths, bridleways, the community route and maintainable highway.

Walkers will have the opportunity to spot the Afon Garw which flows down the valley, and was formerly known as the 'black' river and supports wildlife such as Dipper, Grey Wagtail, grey Heron and spawning sea trout.

The walk will start at 10am at Parc Calon Lan, Blaengarw and appropriate clothing and footwear is essential. A picnic lunch and a drink is required for all walks and booking should be made ahead. To find out more and book your spot, go to www.thevalleys.co.uk/1216.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL SEPTEMBER 27)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
20 Thur	03.56	7.5	16.31	7.8
21 Fri	04.59	8.1	17.24	8.4
22 Sat	05.48	8.6	18.03	8.9
23 Sun	06.26	9.1	18.42	9.3
24 Mon	06.59	9.5	19.16	9.7
25 Tues	07.32	9.8	19.48	9.9
26 Wed	08.05	10.0	20.22	10.2
27 Thur	08.37	10.1	20.53	10.0

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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The Hut 9 group make sombre journey for casualty of war

The plaque on the grave, which was unmarked.

Putting the cross in place.

A GROUP of enthusiasts who look after Hut 9 at the Island Farm former WWII prison camp in Bridgend have made a special journey to honour a local woman who died in 1945.

Island Farm is, of course, famous for the German prisoner of war escape in 1945, and for a short time it was thought (wrongly) that Lily Griffiths had met her death as a result.

Lily Griffiths (aged 29), from Aberdare, was staying in a B&B in Porthcawl with her Canadian Army boyfriend, Howard Grossley (37) and their two-year-old son Anthony.

On March 12, 1945, Lily travelled to Cwmaman in Aberdare to put little Anthony in the care of her sister, so that Lily could take up work in the Bridgend Royal Ordnance Factory later that week.

On her return to Bridgend, Howard and Lily went for a late night walk around 10pm, during which Lily was shot by Howard Grossley.

He initially convinced Lily to tell the Police that he had been trying to protect her from a robbery by German PoWs who had escaped from the Island Farm Camp in Bridgend the previous day, but as Lily's health started to fail, she changed her statement – the night before she died.

Lily's new statement claimed that Howard was a violent man who lived a double life. He was AWOL from the Canadian Army and married with a son in Canada.

They had argued and the argument had escalated and resulted in the shooting. Lily tragically aborted a baby as a result of the shooting and died a few days later on March 16, 1945, but the sad story doesn't end there.

Little Anthony did not survive the year either. He drowned by falling in an Aberdare Lido during the VJ celebrations on August 15, 1945.

Howard Grossley did not escape. He was hanged for murder on September 5, 1945, in Cardiff Prison.

It meant that there were four tragic deaths in 1945 as a consequence of that shooting.

Locating the unmarked grave of Lily Griffiths and two-year-old Anthony, the Hut 9 Preservation Group placed a cross and a plaque on the grave last weekend.

The group would be keen to hear from anybody who might have any information to share about the tragic incident by emailing: *brett.exton@islandfarm.wales*

ABOVE: The inscription on the cross.

The Hut 9 group who visited Aberdare.

Room hire at KPC

DO you run a local group, and are you looking to offer additional classes. or need a meeting space?

KPC Youth & Community in Pyle has rooms available for rental at competitive rates, particularly in the daytime. These are ideal if you are running a small group activity, or exercise class. Pop in to see what we have available; we can offer on-site parking, disabled access and an on-site cafe for refreshments. **KPCY**

PACT meetings

CAERAU PACT at Noddfa Community Centre on Monday, September 24 at 6pm.

Llangeinor PACT at the Richard Price Centre, Llangeinor on Wednesday, September 26 at 5.30pm.

Sarn and Bryncoch PACT at Sarn Life Centre on Monday, October 1 at 7pm. Bettws PACT at Bettws Life Centre on Thursday, October 4 at 2pm.

Man's suspended sentence for passing fake money in town

A construction worker who was involved in using and possessing counterfeit £20 notes at a Trecco Bay caravan site, has been jailed for eight months, the sentence suspended for two years at Cardiff Crown Court, *writes AJ Sicluna*.

When confronted with what he had done, 22-year-old Connor Bray immediately expressed regret and said his behaviour had been stupid, said prosecutor Nicolas Strobel.

Bray, of Commercial Street, Nantymoel, admitted passing counterfeit currency and having custody of 39 counterfeit £20 notes.

Mr Strobel said that about 10pm on March 11, community support officers at the Trecco Bay site were informed that counterfeit £20 notes were being used.

They went to a caravan where Bray was staying and he denied knowing anything about them.

But he was arrested and during a search, 39 fake £20 notes were found in a sports bag.

When interviewed, he made a full and frank confession, saying he had obtained the currency from an acquaintance. He added that he had been in financial difficulty.

Judge Neil Bidder asked to see the notes and was told they were not available.

He said they should have been so that he could assess the quality of them.

Christopher Rees, for Bray, said: "He was cooperative to the extent that he named the supplier. That demonstrates that save for what he did, he was honest.

"There are other criminals further down the chain."

Mr Rees said references spoke of Bray in the highest terms. "He comes from a decent, hardworking family and he won't trouble the court again."

He pointed out that he was about to become a father and any custody would involve obvious financial consequences.

In addition, Bray was ordered to observe a three-month curfew from 8pm to 6am and to carry out 240 hours unpaid work.

Man charged after assault

A 19-YEAR-OLD man has been arrested on suspicion of assault after an incident at Church Place, Porthcawl, at 10.20pm on September 13.

Jamie Robinson, (19), of Porthcawl, has been charged with one count of wounding with intent and one count of possession of a bladed article in a public place.

The 19-year-old man who was injured has been released from hospital.

Police are appealing for witnesses who were there at the time to call 101 quoting reference 1800350143 or call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

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Local pub's quiz gift to the YMCA

THE directors and staff of Porthcawl YMCA wish to convey their gratitude to the patrons of The Jolly Sailor for helping to raise £1,071.55 by attending Joy's Jolly Quiz (held weekly on Wednesdays at 9pm) during the month of August.

The proceeds of this will be used to provide equipment for use by both youth clubs and the after school club. Thanks to all the staff, particularly Joy for her entertaining malapropisms and mispronunciations, for making these evenings enjoyable and fruitful for the charities supported.

JF

Quizmistress Joy (centre) is pictured with Jolly Sailor landlord Mike, and Jane Fielding from Porthcawl YMCA.

Coal, choirs, and Cowley

The original choir in 1933 at Oxford Town Hall.

IN 1928, men and boys looking for work left the south Wales valleys and walked or cycled to Oxford in search of jobs in William Morris's car factory.

The 1920s had been a bad decade for many: there was the General Strike in 1926 and the Hunger March to London in 1927. Once settled in Oxford many of the Welshmen formed a choir known originally at The Cowley Male Voice Choir. It was renamed the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir and around half the choir are Welsh or have strong Welsh connections.

To mark 90 years since they were established, the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir is joining forces with the Risca Male Choir to sing together in St Augustine's Church, Penarth on Saturday, September 29. As a mark of respect to their forebears, many of the choristers will be cycling from Oxford stopping on their way at Cricklade and Chepstow where they will perform with other local male choirs.

Why celebrate in Penarth? This is partly because coal was shipped all over the world from Penarth docks, and because composer Joseph Parry is buried in St Augustine's churchyard.

The concert in Penarth will start at 7pm.

See www.friendsofstaugustines.org.uk for more information.

AS

Tracey's fundraising success

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Tracey is supported in her many fundraising endeavours by her daughter-in-law Emily Davies (28) who lives in Ogmore Vale. Emily is a trainee pharmacy technician based in the Royal Glamorgan Hospital.

Tracey explained: "My aim has been to raise awareness of Velindre Cancer Centre which treats people from all over Wales and also sometimes from England.

"It is a truly amazing place treating people when they are at their most vulnerable – it's a true credit to Wales.

"Some of my patients from the Royal Gwent Hospital go to Velindre and I could see the impact it had on them. I could see where the money was going and that it is not wasted."

Before she began fundraising for Velindre Tracey had already raised £50,000 for other charitable causes.

Her fundraising for Velindre began with a trip to Patagonia in 2015 and went on from there.

"I went with Shane Williams, Julian Lewis Jones, who played Crazy Karl in Stella, rugby broadcaster Sean Holley and 13 other people.

"I completed a 400km bike ride over the Coromandel Hills in New Zealand in 2017, again with Shane Williams and 12 others."

She also completed a trek last year to Machu Picchu in Peru. At that point, she had raised £36,000 for Velindre and last year was named one of its ambassadors.

She said: "Emily and I then decided to do a trek of our own this year to Cambodia with a £10,000 target. We've ended up raising just under £145,000.

"Our 'Light Up Pen Y Fan' walks on May 5, May 12 and August 4, in which 400 people took part, brought in nearly £100,000 of the total. People are still paying in.

"There are 10 of us in total taking part in the Cambodia trek. One of our members and a friend, Anne Wiggley, will be missing because she sadly lost her battle with cancer a few weeks ago. She was also an ambassador for Velindre. I had spent time with her on previous treks and walks.

"The trek will be very emotional without Anne, especially when we get to the 'Temples of Angkor Wat'."

Tracey has also raised more funds by organising car boot sales and psychic nights, and taking part in sky dives and so far, she has completed 17!

She plans a fundraiser for 'Everest Base Camp' next year.

Tracey's success is down to lots of enthusiasm and energy. She said: "It takes a lot of time and effort, but Emily and I love doing it. We publicise events on Facebook and have been supported by PC Signs, Tondu, who have helped with t-shirts and banners.

"Our husbands and family are our biggest supporters and never fail to be there whatever we do."

To donate to Tracey and Emily's Cambodia trek for Velindre Cancer Centre, go to: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/traceyemilydavies18.

Suspicious incidents in Bridgend area involving blue vehicle

POLICE in Bridgend have been dealing with a report of a suspicious incident in the Kenfig and Bridgend areas, which happened around approximately 5.30pm and 7.30pm on Saturday, September 15 respectively.

A man driving a blue coloured vehicle is reported to have asked a 16-year-old boy if he wanted a lift as he was walking along Bridge Street.

Two men in a blue coloured car/van also stopped and asked two 11-year-old girls if they wanted a lift at 5.30pm in the vicinity of Heol-Yr-Ysgol, Sarn.

Officers attended the area, but no-one matching the description of the individual or the vehicle was located. The matter remains under investigation.

Concerned parents are reminded to remain vigilant and to report any concerns of suspicious behaviour to us via 101 quoting occurrence 1800352818.

Penyfai joins the sunflower quest...

We asked people to send us photos of their tallest sunflowers, and the latest to arrive was from Mr Tony Francis of Penyfai. Tony (who is 5 foot six) estimates its height at 11 foot, which looks about right from where we stand!

Residents' fury over toilet closure decision

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The statement continued: *"Porthcawl Town Council will be vehemently opposing the decision to close John Street toilets and a group of Porthcawl's borough members, who sit on Porthcawl Town Council, will be seeking to meet with the senior officer at BCBC as a matter of urgency to resolve this serious situation."*

In response, Cllr Richard Young, the BCBC cabinet member for communities, said: "Due to the financial situation we simply cannot continue to run public toilets in the way that we do now.

"As a result of austerity, we have had to save £30m in the last three years, but over the next three years we will need to save £30m more to balance the books while continuing to protect services aimed at our most vulnerable residents.

"When considering budget savings, no decision is easy. This isn't something that we would choose to do if we were not forced to, and we are making every effort to try to find alternative ways of providing public toilets so that as many as possible can remain open.

"We welcome all town and community councils, local groups, private businesses and more to work alongside us in a constructive way and I am disappointed that Porthcawl Town Council has decided to politicise this issue through the media rather than speaking to us directly on this occasion.

"During the last year, we have had many meetings and conversations with Porthcawl Town Council regarding toilets in Porthcawl, and they were also included in a full public consultation that we held to gather views on which of our public toilets are most needed.

"We will continue to discuss the matter with Porthcawl Town Council to find a suitable solution."

Regional AM Suzy Davies has given her full backing to the campaign by the town council.

Welsh Conservative Mrs Davies said: "Porthcawl is a seaside resort which is visited by thousands of people every week. Having public toilets is crucial for visitors and residents alike, especially women, children and older people.

"Closing the John Street toilets is very shortsighted and could seriously affect the viability of businesses within the town centre. Will people want to visit a town where there are no convenient toilets?

"Porthcawl Town Council is already doing more than its share towards rectifying the situation by paying to renovate and run the Griffin Park Toilets and also get those in the Grand Pavilion re-opened. Both of these toilets are important and I am shocked to discover how run down and neglected the ones at Griffin Park have become under BCBC's watch.

"BCBC obviously thinks that the town council will pick up the slack but people are right to ask where the many millions of pounds contributed in council tax each year by Porthcawl residents is being spent and exactly what they are getting in return.

"If the town council picks up the tab, it will have to raise the money to pay for it from its own precept so Porthcawl residents will in effect be paying double taxation – having already paid their council tax to BCBC they will also be asked to fund extra spending that the town council needs to make to plug the gaps left by BCBC.

"It's just not fair."

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Viva Las Pencoed?

THE Pencoed and District Art Group will be exhibiting its tribute to Elvis Presley at the Little Pen-y-Bont Arms Micro Pub, Pencoed from Saturday, September 23.

The group founded in 2010 has a permanent exhibition showing at the pu,b but decided to have its first ever themed show, and what better iconic personality could there be than 'The King' himself. Also the timing is appropriate for the Porthcawl Elvis Festival.

The group did have several discussions about its selection of a theme but eventually Elvis was the winner. This became a challenge to all our artists and plenty of internet research into his life, record covers, song lyrics, films and memorabilia has led to many ideas of Elvis and how to present him and his life in painting and drawing.

Those pictures being presented are diverse and interesting, ranging from portraits, silhouettes, caricatures and even to what is now a famous Welsh landmark. The group works in all art media and this is an integral part of the exhibition and is fundamental to the ethos of the group.

The group meets regularly on Thursday evenings at Woodlands Pavilion, Pencoed. While small in number the talents are varied from beginners upwards. 'Enjoyment of painting' is the phrase to describe the group and this tribute to Elvis has really enabled the artists to discover new talents and methods of how and what to paint. An enjoyable exercise has been experienced by the entire group and is now on show for the public to enjoy.

Ron Dobie

Colwinston man (36) jailed for causing death of cyclist

A TAXI driver whose vehicle struck three cyclists on the A48, killing one of them, has been jailed for three years at Cardiff Crown Court.

Jack Berry, 26, a chef who died at the scene, was said to have had "the world at his feet."

Craig Gough said when he heard of Mr Berry's death: "I'm devastated."

He had been working through the night for more than 13 hours and later lied that he had taken a rest period.

Gough (36), of Hilton Farm, Colwinston, who had no previous convictions, admitted causing Mr Berry's death by dangerous driving.

Passing sentence, Judge Eleri Rees said it must have been obvious to him as he was very tired and had lost the facility to control his vehicle.

Prosecutor David Pugh said that just before sunrise on October 28, Gough's vehicle, a Skoda Octavia, struck the three cyclists between the Cowbridge bypass and Pentre Meurig.

During his shift, Gough had accepted 33 fares and was en route from Cardiff to Bridgend, where he was based.

Earlier, he had obtained a takeaway at Talbot Green and drove to Cardiff intending to play poker to obtain money for a holiday. At one point, he gave a couple in Cardiff a free lift before leaving the city at 7.04am.

Mr Berry and two others were keen cyclists who had ridden together for a year. They had met at St Hilary, had reflective clothing and were "well lit up", riding in single file.

Gough, said Mr Pugh, had an open view of the rear cyclist from 370 metres and was 15 seconds from them.

Craig Gough.

At 7.17am, the collision took place and Mr Berry, who was at the rear, was struck over the taxi. One cyclist hit a hedgerow and the other was left in the road.

They were injured and were treated in hospital.

Gough continued driving and admitted later that his car badge was damaged and he did a u-turn and returned to the scene.

A motorist carried out CPR on Mr Berry but he died at the scene and was later identified by his wife.

Death was caused by traumatic head injuries.

All the cycles were badly damaged and Gough was visibly upset.

He told the police he had been doing about 55mph and lost concentration for a few seconds. He said his first fare had been 13 hours, 37 minutes before and he had used energy drinks to stave off tiredness.

One of the cyclists, Andrew Hooker, the landlord of The Bush Inn, where Mr Berry was employed, stated that life would never be the same again. Mr Berry, he said, was loved by the staff.

After the collision, he stated he was very dazed and scared and received counselling. He once collapsed and suffered serious crying, as well as post traumatic stress disorder. He continued, saying that his life had changed forever and added: "Jack's name will never leave us."

A school, the court heard, had been founded in Fiji by a charity in honour of Mr Berry.

Cyclist Matthew Simmonds stated that since the collision, he drank excessively and feared for his own mortality. His attention span had been affected and he had become tearful.

He described it as "a life changing experience".

James Evans, for Gough, said: "This is a tragic case. He accepts he was tired and not concentrating as he should have been. He panicked immediately after but returned to the scene within a minute."

His remorse, he said, was absolutely genuine and he realised it had to be a custodial sentence.

The judge said: "The sentence has to reflect your degree of culpability."

She pointed out that he lied about taking a rest and an aggravating feature were the injuries caused to the other cyclists.

Gough, she said, would carry his burden for the rest of his life.

He was disqualified for five and a half years and ordered to take the extended driving test.

The judge passed her condolences to the many members of Mr Berry's family who were in court.

PC Matthew Deschoolmeester, lead collision investigator, said: "The family of Jack Berry have shown considerable strength throughout the investigation in to the death of a much-loved husband, son and brother. Our thoughts remain with them at this time.

"A morning cycle ride with three friends ended in tragedy due to Craig Gough's actions. He knowingly drove while deprived of adequate sleep or rest and lost consciousness while driving in this case.

"His actions have resulted in the death of Mr Berry which has left his family and friends heartbroken.

"I hope this case sends a stark message to other motorists that a lapse in concentration such as from tiredness can lead to tragic circumstances such as this.

"We would also like to highlight the importance for motorist to give cyclists plenty of room whilst overtaking – this should be the same amount of room as they would give for overtaking a car which is typically around 1.5m."

AJ Sicluna

'Confusion' over temporary closure of hospital unit

REGIONAL AM Suzy Davies has asked health chiefs for information about the temporary closure of Y Bwthyn Newydd at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend.

The unit was due to close at the end of August for refurbishment to be carried out, but the Bridgend local committee of the Community Health Council has complained about a lack of information about the closure.

Welsh Conservative Suzy Davies said: "This unit provides end of life care and is run jointly by ABMU and Macmillan Cancer Care. It is highly regarded by people in the Bridgend area and it was built following a public appeal. So it belongs as much to the community as to the health board.

"I am concerned that people seem to be in the dark about what's happening, especially when the CHC is the patient's watchdog whose job it is to protect their interests.

"I have asked ABMU chairman Andrew Davies for an update about what's happening with Y Bwthyn, how long it will be closed and what has happened to the patients who were occupying its eight beds.

"I gather that one family was told that their relative had to go home as no beds were available for him at the hospital.

"Others have been transferred to the Ty Olwen unit at Morriston, which is a considerable distance away for relatives to visit especially if they do not have transport of their own."

In a statement from ABMU, the acting cancer services group manager, Les Hammond, said: "We announced in August that Y Bwthyn Newydd would be undergoing a refurbishment and that temporary arrangements would be in place while the work was carried out.

"Unfortunately we omitted to inform the CHC in advance, for which we have apologised. We can give assurances that we are keeping the CHC fully up to date with progress.

"From the outset we have maintained close contact with every patient affected about their own needs and about the range of options for their care during the refurbishment, to support them to have their preferred place of care.

"The work, coinciding with the unit's 21st anniversary, was made possible by generous donations over the years by patients, family members and the public.

"It includes improved kitchen facilities for patients and families, along with a larger family room and new fixtures and fittings.

"In order to complete the work as quickly as possible, it was decided to relocate the in-patient unit for up to six weeks, from August 30.

"During this time the specialist beds have been relocated to Ty Olwen in Morriston Hospital.

"Patients in Princess of Wales Hospital and the community continue to receive support from the hospital and community palliative care services.

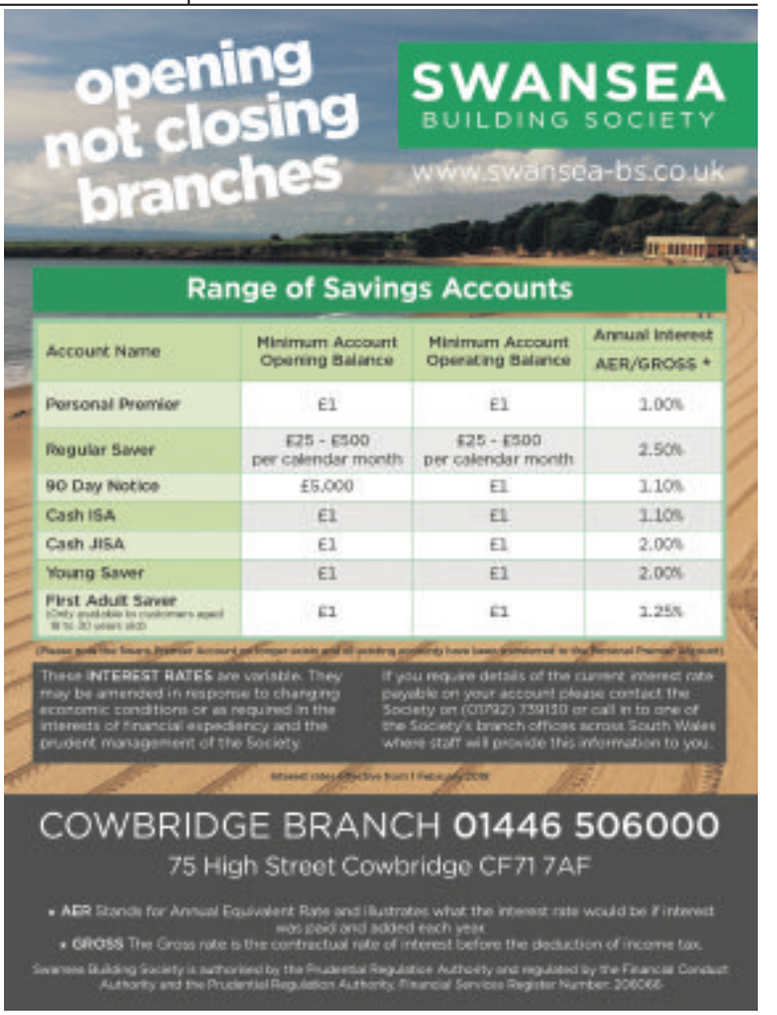
"The palliative care day centre has temporarily relocated to Y Rhosyn in Neath Port Talbot Hospital, where those attending will continue to have access to a wide range of therapeutic activities including exercise and relaxation groups and complementary therapies."

GR

BBC man helps support charity event

TV's Mark Stacey recently visited Bridgend's Wales Air Ambulance Shop when £324 was raised for the charity at the event.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484



Woman (26) smuggled drugs into Parc Prison

A CARER for the elderly who took drugs worth over £1,000 into Parc Prison, Bridgend, for her inmate brother has herself been put behind bars, *writes AJ Sicluna*.

Cardiff Crown Court heard that she wrapped them in kitchen paper and concealed them in her underwear, said prosecutor Rosamund Rutter.

She even sprinkled pepper over them in an attempt to put sniffer dogs off the scent but the ruse failed.

Laura Mason, 26, of Llanrumney, Cardiff, admitted taking cannabis and 20 Butrunor tablets into the prison.

The tablets, said Ms Rutter, could sell for more than £30 each while the cannabis was valued at £120.

Ms Rutter said Mason went to the prison at 5.30pm on January 2. As she went through security, sniffer dogs detected the prohibited items.

She was confronted by staff who saw her adjusting her clothing and the drugs were found after a full strip search.

She was arrested and the following day said she took the drugs into the prison for her brother who had told her he would be seriously assaulted if he didn't pay off a debt.

Gareth Williams, for Mason, urged that she be given a suspended sentence.

He claimed the amount of the drug was "relatively small.

"At the time, she was visibly nervous and it didn't take prison staff long to become suspicious. She had never been in such an environment before and in every way she is of obvious good character, working and caring for the elderly".

Mr Williams added: "Some people do very stupid things and she regrets it. This is a very sorry tale".

Judge Jonathan Furness told her: "I accept you were under pressure because of threats made to your brother."

He added: "I am satisfied you knew what you were doing and that it was against the law and serious.

"Taking drugs into prison disturbs the working of the prison and can increase the difficulty of maintaining a safe environment.

"People who take drugs into prison must know that is where they will go themselves."

She was jailed for 10 weeks.

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Waste contractors *were* fined by BCBC – but amount is not revealed

MANAGERS in charge of Bridgend's controversial £82m seven-year Kier waste contract appeared before councillors on Monday (September 17) to answer questions on the first year's performance.

When the contract began in June 2017, the new service was described as causing "chaos" with large numbers of missed rubbish and recycling collections.

But the new approach to waste collection has resulted in the county borough's annual recycling rate rising from 58 per cent in 2016-17 to 68.5 per cent for 2017-18.

Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) has gone from being the second worst local authority in Wales for recycling to being the second best in under a year.

Speaking at the overview and scrutiny committee meeting on Monday September 17, the BCBC cabinet member for communities, Cllr Richard Young, said there had been "a degree of extreme criticism" at the start of the contract but there was "no doubt" the service had got better.

He said: "The start was unfortunate, we worked through it and it has taken the cooperation of Kier, officers and councillors."

Communities director Mark Shephard said Kier had been fined a "significant" amount by the council for failing to meet contractual expectations such as missed collections.

He said: "We've been advised by our legal team that we can't discuss the amount as it is commercially sensitive.

"The financial penalties were mainly applied very early on in the contract. They've managed to reduce the problem."

According to a report which went before councillors, the fines are based on a points-based system. For example, a missed collection is two points and a late container or sack delivery is five points, with points multiplying for each additional day.

In year one of the contract almost 425,000 points were calculated. The number currently is around 9,100 points a month, which is decreasing.

BCBC's head of neighbourhood services, Zak Shell, said the problems were exacerbated in the first year of the new service due to the series of successive interim management arrangements at Kier.

He said: "Since employing the local manager from within the borough it has very much helped speeding up the process of settling the contract.

"Putting Scott Saunders in place and the team which he now has behind him has improved things markedly."

Kier regional manager Maz Akhtar said over 50 per cent of the management team in the Bridgend depot had changed in recent months.

He said: "The new team has been excellent, they've delivered significant improvements and continue to do so on an almost daily basis."

BCBC Leader Cllr Huw David said he had been one of the first to criticise Kier, but there had since been "huge improvements".

He thanked residents in the county for "embracing" the service, saying its success was down to them.

He added: "The year we were introducing the new service we just missed our recycling target and we could have received a fine from Welsh Government.

"I had to explain to the Minister for the Environment we were introducing the service and that was the only reason we did not get fined."

Some of the issues raised during the scrutiny committee meeting:

• **Black plastic** – There are no plans to introduce a black plastic recycling system in Bridgend due to the cost of recycling it.

Mr Akhtar said it would cost around £110k a year to recycle the material.

He said: "The market for black plastic doesn't really exist. There's hardly any weight in black plastic, so you would have to get an awful lot together to make it worthwhile.

"It's something we need to keep on the radar because the markets have significantly changed in the last year for recycling, where China has upped the quality of materials they're accepting."

Mr Shell said: "It's worth noting quite a few of the producers of black plastic are cottoning onto the problems to recycling black plastic.

"A number of lightweight trays and supply products are changing."

• **Schools** – Kier is looking to introduce food waste and card recycling at certain schools in the county.

Currently, 14 schools in the county use Kier commercial waste.

The majority of schools have their waste collected by other contractors.

•**Absorbent Hygiene Product (AHP) recycling** – The council currently sends its AHP products to NappiCycle in Ammanford.

The group manager for streetworks, Andrew Hobbs, told councillors work was being undertaken with the Welsh Government to look at setting up a new AHP recycling facility closer to Bridgend.

Mark Shephard said residents would also get to have their say over whether the council should continue to run the service when the budget consultation begins.

He said: "My personal view is it's not something we would want to lose at all but the question is being asked as there is a potential financial saving.

"If it was cut it would have an impact on our recycling and it may be in a couple of years we would want to reintroduce it to achieve the next recycling target."

• **Wildmill estate** –

An extra collection day for recycled products is taking place on the Wildmill estate in Bridgend to help tackle waste and fly tipping issues around communal bin areas.

Extra recycling bins have also been rolled out on the housing estate.

• **Webcams at Community Recycling Centres** –

Webcams are being set up at recycling centres in the county to allow residents to check online before they visit to see how busy it is at the centre.

The first webcam will soon go live at the Maesteg centre and the Brynmenyn one will follow.

Mr Shell said a technical issue with setting up a webcam at the Tythegston centre meant it would be too expensive.

He said: "I think the webcams will be really useful for members of the public who want to go to a recycling centre but they want to choose a quieter time so they can look online and see what's going on.

"We've been sent the first link for one of the sites so we will get it set up on the council website as soon as possible.

"Due to the substantial cost involved with Tythegston and the long-term view to move the centre to a site in Pyle, it seems investing the money for a webcam would be a waste of money."

• **Polystyrene –**

Kier says it in discussions with another supplier to recycle polystyrene back into reusable packaging.

• *Use of Welsh language in the call centre* –

Cllr Gareth Howells asked about the provision of customer service calls in the Welsh language. Kier uses a separate Welsh language call centre to its one in Torquay for Welsh speakers.

Mr Akhtar said there were no calls made in Welsh last month and at its highest level, around five or six calls were made in Welsh.

• **Calendars with 'wrong' collection dates for garden waste** –

Cllr Norah Clarke said there was an issue with Kier not getting the right collection dates which left calendars being sent out with the wrong date and the company then having to send out corrections.

The Nottage ward councillor said: "I have found, especially in Porthcawl, that residents were given calendars saying garden waste would be collected on a certain day and then another calendar came out a week later because the days were wrong.

"Some people didn't get the second notification so the waste was going out on the first day instead of the right day and that seemed to go on for weeks and weeks."

Mr Akhtar said that as garden waste was an opt-in service, Kier could not be sure what the uptake would be before it began.

He said: "Initially we base the data on how many customers we have and that needs to be rebalanced if we have more customers sign up.

"Last year I think we left it a bit too late, the letters didn't go out until February.

"This year we will get them out in November which should mean by January we will have the bulk of the customers signed up and we can plan the rounds accordingly."

Liz Bradfield
Local democracy reporter

Choir to sing at stadium

KENFIG Hill & District Male Voice Choir has been selected to sing at the Wales versus South Africa Autumn International at the Principality Stadium on November 24.

We said farewell to our outgoing musical director, Phil Juliff and accompanist Beryl Evans at our concert in July and the choir returned in September to a new era under the musical direction of Joshua Xerri.

We look forward to the regular concerts that take place in the autumn, Christmas, St David's Day, two tours away in 2019 and the next annual concert in the Grand Pavilion in the summer as well as some interesting and exciting new ventures such as hosting a male voice choir from Ireland, performing a joint concert with the Royal Marines Band, and an extra concert at the Grand Pavilion for the National Coastwatch Institution.

We are also looking towards 2021, which will be the choir's 50th anniversary since its resurrection in 1971, where we will be touring further afield with strong contacts in Canada, USA and other international venues.

For more information, call 07866 742452.

Dave Xerri

Community group looks for volunteers

LOOKING for a new commitment, to make new friends, to increase your experience, or to advance your CV?

The community cooperative, Porthcawl-based SUSSED, is looking for volunteer trustees and directors.

If you are passionate about sustainable development and have management, development, research, marketing, communication or retail skills to share, the charity would like to hear from you.

Current activity revolves around 'ethical consumerism', local energy, culture and the arts (outlined on *www.sustainablewales.org.uk)*. Contact *mm@sustainablewales.org.uk* for further details.

Road set to be closed during Elvis Festival

A STRETCH of the main road along the prom in Porthcawl to be shut for the Elvis Festival will be closed for the majority of the weekend (September 29-30).

Bridgend County Borough Council is advising visitors to the event, and local residents, that there will be a road closure all day on Saturday, September 29 from 6am along the esplanade between Porthcawl Marina and the Seabank Hotel.

The road will stay closed on Sunday morning until 2am, when it will re-open, but will then close again for the rest of the day from 6am until midnight. Timings may vary slightly in order to ensure the smooth running of the event.

Temporary diversions will be in place and drivers are asked to pay close attention to the temporary signage when driving in and around the town over the festival weekend.

One-way systems will also be in place in Victoria Avenue, Doddridge Way, Park Avenue and Dock Street in order to minimise congestion on the diversion routes.

Meanwhile, the majority of the Eastern Promenade will be closed to all vehicles other than taxis, coaches and mini buses that are dropping Elvis fans off at the event, but the Salt Lake car park will still be open and accessible. Additional signage will be provided to guide drivers to the car parks and dedicated drop-off zones.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

Bridgend Quiz League testers

HERE are the latest teasers from the Bridgend Quiz League:

1. In feature film making, what profession are the gaffer and the best boy?

2. Dump, floater and wipe are terms used in which sport?

3. What large building in Bridgend was demolished in 1971?

SK

Answers:
1. Electricians.
2. Water polo.
3. The old town hall in Dunraven Place.

Centenerian honoured by club

Caerau Men's Shed presents Victor with **The Times** *newspaper printed on the day he was born – July 5, 1918. From left, Victor, Mike, Brian and chairman Chris Davies. IMAGE by PHIL DAVIES.*

CAERAU Men's Shed has welcomed a new member recently, 100-year-old Richard Victor Davies.

Aged 14, Mr Davies joined the Royal Navy's training ship HMS *Warspite* and after training joined the Merchant Navy in order to see the world.

When World War Two broke out, he joined the army (as an anti-aircraft gunner) only to be told after six months that he had to go back to the Merchant Navy because so many of its men had been killed in the war.

He served in the Pacific, the Atlantic, and on the Arctic convoys delivering supplies to the Soviet Union. He was on the Polish ship *Krakow* which helped in the liberation of Europe.

His ship was alongside Lord Louis Mountbatten's when they liberated Hong Kong; they then went on to Singapore. He was at sea for a year after the war had ended.

Four years ago, he received the Russian Federation's Ushakov Medal, when two Russian third secretaries from the Russian Embassy and their families came to his home in Garth, Maesteg, to present it to him.

Despite serving the whole war at sea and experiencing many tragedies, including the death of his brother, he survived the war and found work in Caerau Colliery when he was demobbed.

For him, the colliery was more dangerous than the war and within a few months he had broken his back in an accident.

However, Mr Davies refused to give in and decided that he was going to marry one of the nurses. Eirlys Ray Davies, the nurse who cared for him, said 'yes' and they were married on November 29, 1947. That was 70 years ago and they are still both together and living in their own home in Maesteg.

Phil Davies

Busy time for Pencoed WI

PENCOED WI has been quite active over the last nine months.

We have had some excellent speakers at our monthly meeting. Sara Pickard was an inspirational speaker with a talk entitled 'I've Got Downs So What'.

Our speaker in October is talking about UFOs – that should be interesting.

We still have craft, book, lunch, walking clubs and also a coffee morning once a month. In March we had a Welsh evening with Welsh folk dancers to which family and friends were invited.

Members have also taken part in events organised by Glamorgan Federation of WIs, including a guided walk of Tewkesbury, a visit to the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, petanque, whist, walks and footgolf.

In June we visited the American Museum in Bath which was interesting and also had afternoon tea. A grant from the Lottery helped to pay for the event.

Also, we visited to the Mansion House in Cardiff for a tour and afternoon tea. That was an excellent afternoon, and educational.

We are now looking forward to our fish and chip supper, a visit to Hotter Shoes, dinner at the Hi Tide and our Christmas lunch at Coed y Mwstwr.

Visitors and new members are welcome, we meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 1.45pm in Pencoed Welfare Hall.

For further information contact Val on 01656 862181 or Pat on 01656860289. **VW**

Water company cleans up

A TEAM of volunteers from Severn Trent's Bridgend laboratories took part in a beach clean-up on Newtown beach in Porthcawl earlier this week.

The staff spent the day sprucing up the beach alongside partner charity Keep Wales Tidy as part of the All Wales Beach Clean.

Lee Thomas, one of the Severn Trent volunteers, said: "Everyone really got stuck in and helped make a real difference to the beach. Our friends and families even came out to help and between us we managed to fill around 30 bags of rubbish.

The first ever All Wales Beach Clean runs until September 30.

Saving the fish in The Wilderness

The Friends of The Wilderness hand over the cheque.

AFTER a summer of fundraising for aerators to save the fish in The Wilderness Lake, Porthcawl, the Friends of the Wilderness were delighted to handover a cheque for £2,311 recently to Porthcawl Angling Association.

The donation will purchase equipment that will aerate the lake and save the fish.

This is a short term solution, and The Friends are working to raise funds and donations to improve the lake and its environment for future generations.

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TRIM & TIDY — From £20
As for the Deluxe Bath, but also includes a paw and face trim.

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For longer haired dogs who love to be at the spa!
Includes basic de-matt, bath, conditioning treatment, blueberry facial scrub, blow dry, brush out, full styling, pawdicure with paw balm, anal glands and ear clean, breath freshener, nose balm and a spritz of cologne!

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Successful - Resilient - Gospel Values

Brexit, investment, and back to work for a local MP

by **CHRIS ELMORE,** MP for Ogmore

THE summer recess has ended and Parliament returns, for what is an odd few weeks with a conference season starting in the middle of September.

In Parliament, it's impossible to avoid the Brexit debate and the potential leadership coup the Prime Minister is facing.

In my last column for The GEM, I said how this was the most important political event in Britain since the war and how the Government needs to pull up its socks – this point remains unchanged.

Only the chitter chatter of Tory rebels are growing in volume. The country needs direction and as I look over to the Tory benches day by day, there just isn't any.

It's clear we're not going to get any sort of cohesion in Parliament. This is not what those who voted leave or remain asked for.

The Government is failing to convince its own MPs that it's plans are deliverable, never mind the European Union, or indeed and more importantly the British people. There is a clear need for leadership and the Prime Minister is found lacking.

Since being back in the House, I've also spoken out on the shocking statistic that South Wales Police have had a 30 per cent cut from central Government since 2010. The impact this is having on rural and community policing is significant.

I asked the Policing Minister to back South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner Alun Michael's call to increase funding to prevent pressures getting worse – as ever it is warm words and more rhetoric, but the reality is Chief Police Officers are warning the policing system is, in parts, at breaking point and only the UK Government to help start to put it back together.

I have also called for the Government to follow the Welsh Labour Government's lead by setting up a Micro Small Business Fund to help support business in the tourism sector, protect and create jobs.

These small business start-ups, that include businesses like pubs, are vital for our economy and it's clear Welsh Labour are leading the way on growing local economies while the UK Government leaves small business investment behind.

Sadly, the Chancellor missed the point entirely – the UK government needs to look to protect jobs and business, not just create them.

Their short-termism is deeply disappointing.

Away from Parliament, the past few weeks I've been busy around the constituency, not least in opening the sensory garden in Y Bont.

I'm hugely proud to have links with the charity that supports children and their families right across the Ogmore constituency and beyond.

Their dedication and constant commitment to supporting children with some of the most complex needs is something I continue to be in awe of.

The facility is fantastic and will be another gem in the charity's already impressive crown.

In recent weeks, I've met with both Job Centre Plus staff in Maesteg and Citizens Advice to discuss the realities of Universal Credit role out that has recently started in parts of the constituency.

It is pivotal that those who are struggling with Universal Credit are given as much support as possible, particularly with the five to six week wait for UC to be paid.

ADVERTORIAL

The search for missing Ludo continues...

THE story of Ludo the Labrador/Border Collie cross, has swept through the Vale and the surrounding areas, with dog lovers everywhere concerned for his wellbeing.

When the Bull family of Llantwit Major set up their Facebook page dedicated to report sightings and share ideas of finding Ludo, they had no idea of how much of a reaction it would get.

Several searches have taken place, the help of a pet detective was enlisted and the Bulls have entrusted members of the Find Ludo group to act as administrators for the page due to the high volume of join requests and posts.

In fact, a few of the members have dedicated their spare time to actively searching, putting up posters and seeking celebrity endorsements to help spread the word.

Despite the continued support and the outpouring of positivity, poor Ludo has yet to be spotted.

"The not knowing what has happened to him is the worst thing," said Hannah Bull.

"Evenings are the worst, when your mind starts to go into overload you worry even more – I miss everything about him."

Chris Bull says they are both overwhelmed by the kindness they are being shown, people they never knew before have been amazing, organising searches, putting up posters and going door to door with flyers.

They just need a sighting – many people are ready to spring into action as soon as there is a positive sighting, something they are hoping they get very soon.

"Too many tears have been shed and not just by us. The love for Ludo is immense and the support is fantastic – if love and support could find him, he would be home in a nanosecond," he said.

Hannah and Chris are worried that with time marching on, people will give up on him – something they will never do; he is their dog and they will not rest until he is back with them.

If someone finds a dog, the law says they must report it to the dog warden. It can be tempting to take in a stray dog, but people are urged to think about the dog's family and to always report a stray.

There is currently a substantial reward for Ludo's safe return.

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Vale Council struggles with increase in demand for mental health assessments

FAMILIES are being left "in despair" as councils fail to cope with a soaring demand for urgent mental health assessments, it has been reported.

The Vale and Cardiff areas have experienced what's been described as a "scary" increase in the number of referrals for deprivation of liberty safeguards – which are for people unable to make decisions about their own care who need constant supervision.

A team dealing with 'DoLS' referrals across the region are dealing a backlog of more than 800 outstanding assessments which have yet to be carried out which has led to concerns many families are being left without urgently-needed support.

More than 2,500 referrals for 'DoLS' were received by the team in 2017/18 alone – and just 1,676 assessments were completed.

Natasha James, the Vale Council's operational manager for safeguarding and service outcomes, has said all local authorities are struggling with the demand.

She told the council's healthy living and social care scrutiny committee on September 11: "The demand for authorisation of deprivation of liberty safeguards far outweighs what we are able to keep up with and achieve."

'DoLS' assessments are co-ordinated by the Cardiff and the Vale Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards/Mental Capacity Act on behalf of three authorities.

The team completed 840 'DoLS' assessments from Cardiff and Vale University Health Board in 2017/18, and in April, there were 95 outstanding. 'DoLS' referrals for hospital patients have to be prioritised because of the unpredictable nature of hospital admissions.

Some 508 assessments from Cardiff Council were completed in 2017/18, and in April there were 504 outstanding.

Figures for DoLS assessments from theVale Council showed 328 were completed in 2017/18, and in April there were 230 outstanding.

A landmark Supreme Court Ruling in 2014 caused an increase in 'DoLS' assessments which local authorities have to deal with.

It made factors such as the purpose of a deprivation of liberty or the person's compliance with it irrelevant when social services decided upon applications.

Before the ruling took effect in 2013/14, authorities across Cardiff and the Vale dealt with just 93 'DoLS' referrals.

Cllr Neil Thomas told the committee: "It's a scary increase in the numbers. It's astronomic.

"It looks like cases at the bottom of the list will never get to the top. It appears they will never be assessed."

Ms James said: "This is absolutely the case for authorities across the board."

Cllr Thomas added: "There are going to be families in despair and continuing despair, because the support is not coming through."

Amanda Phillips, head of resource management and safeguarding, said there will be other measures taken to mitigate risk to people while they are waiting to be assessed.

A report to the committee said'DoLS' assessments are not done in isolation.

The report stated: "Individuals who are involved in the 'DoLS' process and who are resident within the Vale Council area will have already have had a full assessment of their care and support needs by an appropriate professional.

"An appropriate care and support plan will be in place and the authority will have ensured that identified needs are being met."

Matt Discombe, Local Democracy Reporter

Can you help Betsy?

BETSY is a three-year-old Crossbreed. It does take some time for her to gain trust with people, so she will need to live with patient owners who can allow her some space.

Betsy is looking for patient owners.

She loves the company of other dogs and it would be beneficial for her to live with a confident dog already established in the home, as this may help her settle sooner.

Due to Betsy's sensitive nature, she will need to live in an adult-only home with no young visiting children. Once Betsy finds her feet, she is sure to shine!

If you would like to know more about Betsy, then contact Dogs Trust Bridgend on 01656 725219; or call into the centre at Court Colman CF31 4NG. You can also visit the website at www dogstrust.org.uk.

An invitation to turn Barry Island red, white and green!

AROUND 2,000 people are expected to march with multi-coloured banners and a samba band down the Barry Island promenade on Saturday, October 6 at 11.30am, as part of the May 2019 Cardiff and Vale Urdd National Eisteddfod Proclamation Festival.

Local schools and colleges are invited to participate in the march which will start on the beach in front of Marco's Café.

Following the march, the celebrations will continue until 3pm with an afternoon of free entertainment for the family.

The afternoon will include performances from Syrcas Circus, S4C's *Cyw* presenters and characters, the Barry Big Band, Wigwam and performances by local schools, 'adrannau' (Urdd youth clubs) and groups.

Gwenno Mair Davies, chair of the Urdd Eisteddfod Board, said: "With the hard work of preparing and raising funds for the Urdd Eisteddfod Cardiff and the Vale 2019 in full flow, we are very much looking forward to welcoming everyone to Barry Island to celebrate the Proclamation Festival.

"A host of schools from the whole area will be participating to march through the streets of Barry.

"Rain or shine, there will be a whole host of activities, fun and entertainment to be had on the day and there is a warm welcome for everybody to come along!"

Rob Thomas, the Vale Council managing director, said: "It is a pleasure to hold the Proclamation Festival at Barry Island, one of the most iconic locations in the Vale.

"As a Council, we were very proud to have welcomed the National Eisteddfod in 2012 and we look forward to welcoming the Urdd Eisteddfod to Cardiff and the Vale in 2019.

"We know that a number of our schools will be participating and enjoying not only the Proclamation Festival, but also the festival itself in 2019, which does so much to celebrate the importance of Welsh culture."

People are encouraged to wear red, white and green on the day, and Eisteddfod 2019 goods will be for sale on the Urdd stand, including hoodies and T-shirts.

Aled Sion, director of the Urdd Eisteddfod, said: "The support we have received to date from people in the area coming to the Urdd Eisteddfod's, one of the largest travelling festivals in Europe, has been fantastic."

Banner competition

NO march is complete without banners, and a cash prize is being offered to the winners of a competition to create and display a banner on the day which promotes a school/adran(club) and highlights the coming of the Eisteddfod.

Welsh, Urdd and Owain Glyndŵr banners are also welcome on the march.

Free public car parks are provided, but those attending are encouraged to use public transport where possible.

If anyone is interested in having a stall during the festival, contact *ruth@urdd.org* before September 29.

Arrest made in fake police officer scam

DETECTIVES investigating a scam where fraudsters purport to be police officers have made an arrest.

A 30-year-old Cardiff man was arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to defraud.

The arrest was in connection with a series of scams committed in the Vale area.

Officers carried out an early morning raid of a house in Adamsdown, Cardiff, where a quantity of cash was found.

Detective Inspector Terry Hopkins, of Barry CID, said: "This arrest is as a result of an ongoing investigation into fraudsters purporting to be fake police officers to con mainly elderly victims into handing over their money.

"A team of detectives have been investigating these type of scams as part of Operation Signature.

"Police officers will never call you asking for money. If you or your loved ones receive calls of this nature then please hang up and report it to us on 101 or 999 in an emergency."

Group can help with courses

GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) offers an extensive range of training courses and briefing sessions.

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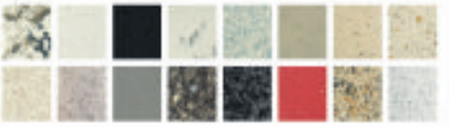

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Betws Primary reopens

The brand new Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon Y Cymoedd is being built next door as a mirror image of Betws Primary School.

A FIRE-DAMAGED Bridgend County Borough school which was demolished and replaced with state-of-the-art new premises has officially opened.

Betws Primary has been built as part of a £10.8 million educational investment into the southern part of the Garw Valley after plans were approved to construct a Welsh medium primary school, Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon Y Cymoedd, at the same site.

Catering for up to 210 pupils aged between four and 11, Betws Primary can now offer a nursery for 45 children, seven 'nurture places' and specialist support for eight pupils with hearing impairment.

AS

BINGO SOCIAL EVENING

ON Thursday, October 4 Bingo will start promptly at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge followed by light refreshments.

Free entry – bring a friend!

WI members learn about 'greatest generation'

MYNYDD Cynffig WI members held their monthly meeting at the Talbot Centre, Kenfig Hill, at the usual time of 2pm to 4.30pm.

The meeting was chaired by Christine and minutes read by Katherine. Enid our secretary and Eirwen our treasurer were also in attendance.

Enid read out our WI correspondent and business. Our August trip to St Fagan's and the Mansion House in Cardiff was declared a great success.

We discussed Christmas and our Christmas party and Enid's now famous 'pass the parcel' was organised and put to bed.

Our speaker was Malcolm Cowper, whose talk on Glamorgan's Greatest Generation was of great interest as several of our members knew of people in the book and were delighted to hear the stories written about their time during the Second World War.

The speaker for October is Rosemary Scaddon, her topic: 'Top to Toe, a history of clothes' – should be interesting.

Tea and biscuits finished our meeting with several of our members attending the Federation Quiz in the Hi Tide, we wish them good luck.

CC

Cowbridge Male Voice Choir

ON Saturday, September 22, Cowbridge Male Voice Choir will perform at the Church of St Andrews and St Teilo, Woodville Road, Cathays, Cardiff in a joint concert with Cathays Brass.

The concert starts at 7pm and is in aid of the charity Llamau, which works supporting the homeless.

Tickets (£5) are available from cathaysbrasstickets@gmail.com or on the door.

On Wednesday, September 26 at St Cadoc's Church, Llancarfan, at 7.30pm, the choir will perform in aid of church funds.

Tickets (£10) include a glass of wine and are available from Mary Grey on 01446 781936 or Sue Taylor on 01446 781453.

Wings in Porthcawl for Kenfig Hill Air Cadets

TWO cadets from 2117 Kenfig Hill Squadron RAF Air Cadets, Cadet Corporal Patricia Davies and Cadet Corporal Morgan Griffiths, braved the windy and sometimes wet weather conditions in Porthcawl town centre to take part in fundraising on behalf of the Royal Air Forces Association Wings Appeal.

Fundraising for military charities such as RAFA is all part of the cadet experience and plays a key role toward their BTEC in Aviation Studies, where all cadets are expected to carry out 22.5 hours of charity assistance a year (four full days).

Flight Sergeant Peckham RAFAC was in charge of the collection that was organised by Kevin Gould, Wings Appeal Officer for RAFA Porthcawl and Kenfig Hill branch.

AS

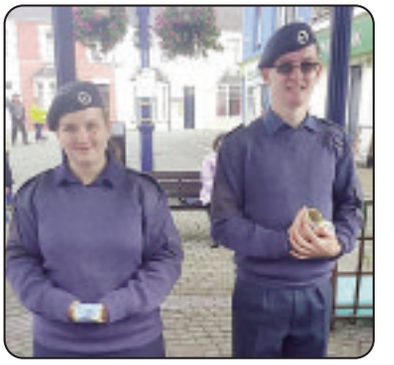
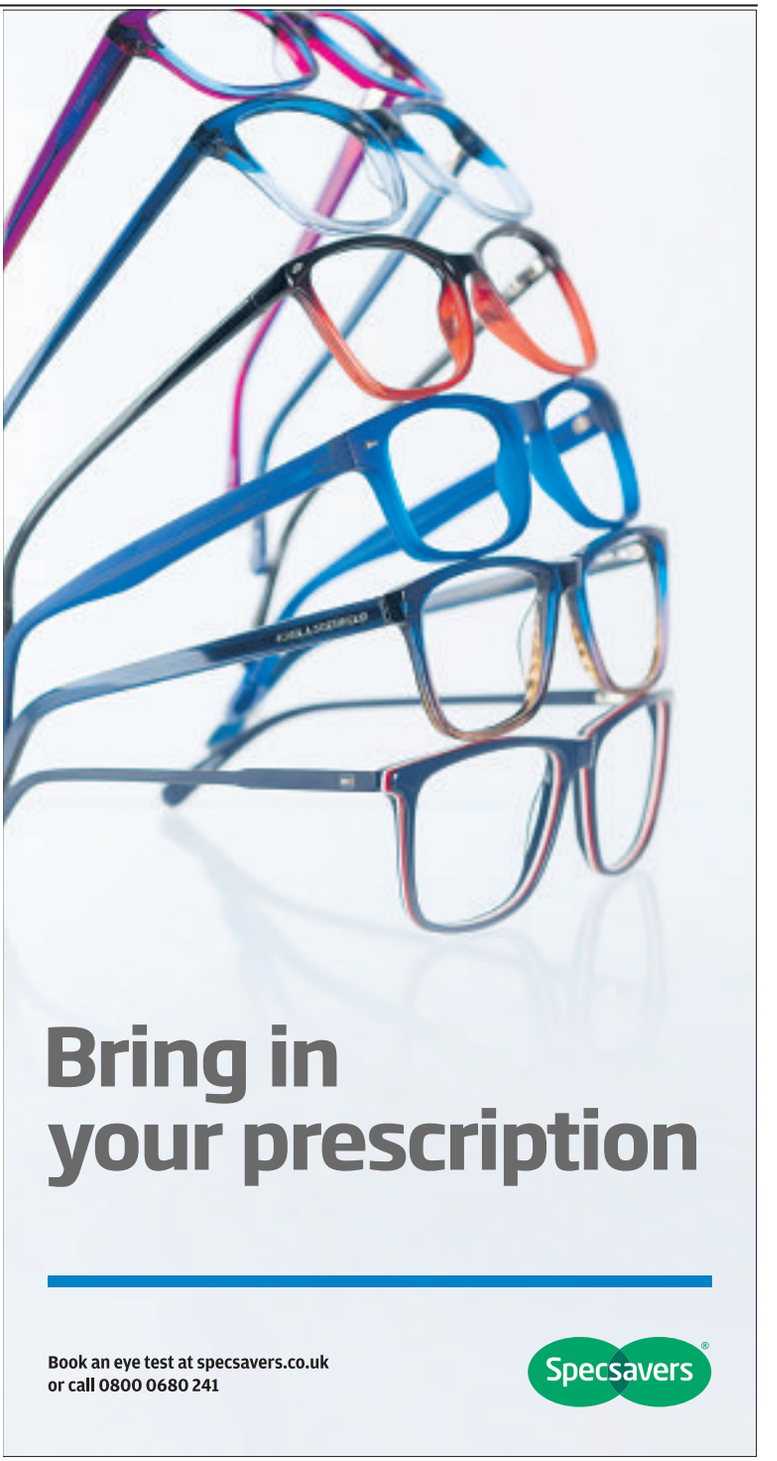


Photo supplied by Flt Sgt Peckham RAFAC. Cdt Cpl Davies and Cdt Cpl Griffiths.



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There's still time to have your say on Vale parking consultation

A COUNCILLOR has 'urged' people to respond to the Vale parking consultation which comes to an end on Friday, September 28.

The council has been holding drop-in sessions to explain the proposals to Vale residents.

Another session takes place on Monday, September 24 in the Council Chamber at the Civic Offices, Barry, from 3pm until 7pm.

Coun Gwyn John, of Llantwit Major, said that everyone in the Vale had an interest in the consultation, even if they did not live in a location that might face parking charges.

"I hope everyone living at Llantwit Major has responded to the Vale Council about the proposals for car parking charges across the four main towns in the Vale.

"I would like to remind everyone that they will suffer if they visit the towns affected.

"People living in St Athan, Dinas Powys and all the villages will suffer the same fate when visiting these towns.

"St Athan residents often go to Barry and Llantwit Major, so if car parking charges go ahead, then they too will have to dip in their pocket to pay."

For more information on the draft strategy, search online for 'Vale of Glamorgan Council parking consultation' or telephone 01446 700111.

Weatherman walks with Valeways

LAST Saturday, the Friends of Valeways gathered for their summer walk and buffet led by the charity's Honorary President, telly weatherman Derek Brockway.

They gathered at Dyffryn House, hosted by the National Trust, and set off for a four-mile trek around the area taking in part of the Vale Trails Haunted Fields walk; around 25 members took in the ancient sites of Tinkinswood and St Lythans.

The weather remained clement except for one squally shower as the party left Tinkinswood, an event helpfully predicted by Mr Brockway when he saw it approaching over the hills.

The chair of Valeways, Phil Gibbins, thanked Mr Brockway and all the Friends for their support which, in the last year particularly, enabled the charity to maintain 400 miles of country pathways in the Vale; to further develop their programme of Health Walks; and to expand support walks for people with cancer.

Penny Fell

Fonmon Apiary in September

AS ever the seasons change and the bees are certainly aware of this: they are already preparing for the coming winter, and the observant beekeeper will see the drones (male bees) being forcibly removed from the hive.

Starvation and the cold will bring about their demise. Why does this happen? When bees swarm the old queen will leave the colony with a good number of its inhabitants, but provision has been made for a new queen to emerge in the now somewhat smaller colony left behind and this new queen will have to be mated before she can become fully functional. The drone's only contribution.

The worker bees (the ladies) who do all of the work, do all of the organising and control all colony functions, know only too well that there will be no swarming in the winter months, there will be no new queens so all drones are surplus to requirements; and these male non-contributors cannot be allowed to consume valuable in-house winter provisions. Pretty smart, eh?

However, the beekeeper must ensure that sufficient foodstuffs are available within the colony to enable them to survive throughout the winter months. Each colony will require at least 40lb of honey and a quantity of pollen to do so.

Feeding colonies can be done by mixing a 1kilo bag of white processed sugar and 1 pint of water together. This mixture produces syrup that is readily utilised by the bees. Commercial syrup is available and it is far superior to the white sugar mix.

Why feed? Well, the weather may have prevented foraging trips or the beekeeper has removed stores that should really have been left alone.

Decisions, decisions: the bees know what they are doing. It is all too often the beekeeper who does not, and winter losses due to starvation do occur when the wrong decision has been made.

Harold Williams

ADVERTORIAL

Care home is serenaded by Cardiff male voice choir

RESIDENTS at a Cardiff care home enjoyed an evening of uplifting music and song when one of the city's oldest choirs visited them for a special performance.

Tŷ Llandaff, a private nursing, residential and respite care home in Pontcanna, organised for Cardiff Male Choir to come in and sing a wide variety of songs including Welsh hymns and arias, jazz classic and gospel numbers and choruses from songs and great operas.

The choir, which was founded in 1898, were led by musical director Emma Laidlaw Height and accompanist Valerie Roberts, and delivered a stirring and emotional performance rounding off with everyone joining in with the Welsh national anthem Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau.

Tŷ Llandaff activities co-ordinator Melanie Geoghegan said: "Musical events are always a big success with our residents, and who better to come and sing for us than our local male voice choir, especially as Wales is the land of song!

"There was a real 'moment' when the choir sang the national anthem and everyone in the room was singing together. The volume was incredible and the sound was tremendous. It was something very special!

"Music, and in particular singing, is so good for lifting the spirits and has been scientifically proven to lower blood pressure and improve mood.

"The benefits to our residents felt really tangible, and everyone has been buzzing about the performance ever since the visit. We can't wait to arrange to have the Cardiff Male Choir back in."

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Vote for Sally!

A LOCAL solicitor is asking clients past and present to support her after being nominated for a prestigious award.

The Family Law Awards have been taking place for the last eight years and this year, three of the awards will be voted for.

A shortlist of four nominees will be selected by the judges and voting is open until midday on October 19.

This year Sally Fitzherbert of Hopkins Law has been shortlisted for the 'Family Law Chartered Legal Executive of the Year' award and is the only Welsh finalist in the category.

Sally trained in Hugh James, starting straight from school at 16, and after qualifying in 2000 she worked for Clarke and Hartland, JA Hughes and Phoenix Legal Services before joining Hopkins Law in 2013.

Kerry Mordey, Co-Director and Head of Family Law at Hopkins Law Solicitors said "We are delighted that Sally's hard work and dedication has been recognised. We hope that her colleagues, friends and family remember to vote! "

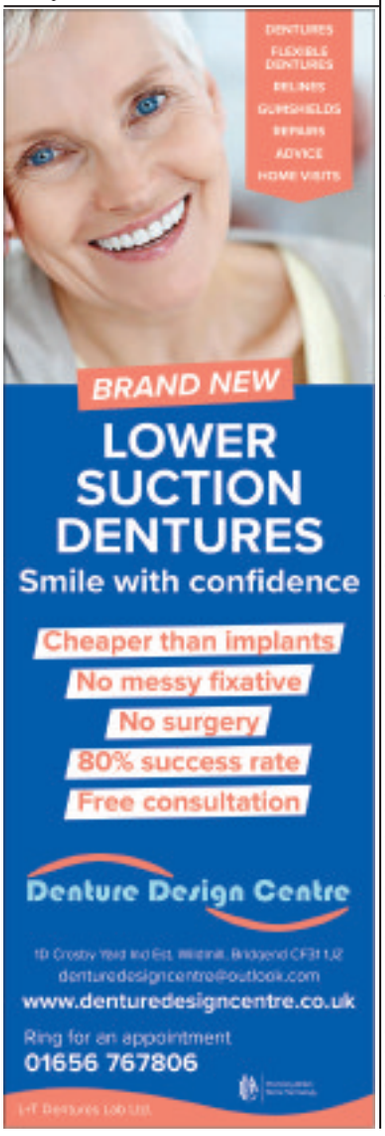
To vote for Sally, follow the link: *www.familylawawards.com/ehome/familylawawards2018/vote*

Valeways walks

ON Wednesday, September 26 at 10.30am, the Cosmeston Coffee Shop Strollers meet at Cosmeston Country Park outside the visitor centre.

Also on September 26 at 2.30pm, the Llantwit Major Coffee Shop Strollers meet at the town hall car park.

On Thursday, September 27 at 10am, 'Is this a watersplash?' at the Six Bells, Penmark CF62 3BP.



A Victorian engineering dynasty in south Wales is celebrated

LEFT:
The celebration at the breakwater lighthouse led by Stephen K Jones, standing behind Norah Clark, Mayor of Porthcawl, with Cllr John McCarthy, Mayor of Bridgend CBC on her right.

CUTHBERT Arthur Brereton was one of the engineers involved in Barry No 2 Dock for the Wolfe Barry Partnership and was one of three Breretons engaged in engineering in south Wales.

They included his father, Robert Maitland Brereton, and the more distantly related Robert Pearson Brereton who came into prominence on September 15 when his work was celebrated at Porthcawl.

The legacy of the engineer was celebrated when a commemorative plaque was unveiled by the chair of the Institution of Civil Engineers Wales Cymru, Sarah Jones and Cllr Dr Charles Smith of Bridgend County Borough Council.

Marking the 200th anniversary of his birth, Robert Pearson Brereton (1818-1894) was born in the year the Institution of Civil Engineers was founded, and on September 15, 1859 with the death of Isambard Kingdom Brunel, Brereton would cease to be his senior assistant and would now be engaged on finishing his engineering works.

Brereton is generally relegated to the footnotes of history – one of the invisible superheroes of engineering unlike the first president of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Thomas Telford, George Stephenson or Isambard Kingdom Brunel, who are remembered today as the giants of the industrial revolution.

In the years after Brunel's death, Brereton was busy completing works such as the railway from the Maesteg district to Bridgend and on to Porthcawl, but he would also undertake some new projects of his own, including a new dock at Porthcawl.

In June 1864 an Act of Parliament authorised the construction of a dock with entrance and gates and other works at the northern end of the existing tidal basin, the substitution of a southern entrance for the one on the side, the extension of the breakwater by 100 yards and the erection of an inner pier 70 yards long.

Designed by Brereton, it was completed at a cost of £250,000 and opened on July 22, 1867.

The great increase in ships' tonnages and the competition of newer and deeper docks put Porthcawl under a great strain to survive in the 20th century; it exported 165,000 tons in 1871 of coal but within 20 years was struggling.

In 1906, Porthcawl gave up coal exporting and went from dock port to seaside resort with Brereton's inner dock filled in around the Second World War period.

Cuthbert Arthur Brereton was also involved with dockwork, in particular, Barry No 2 Dock and he worked on Porthcawl Dock under R P Brereton. In a more personal link with Cuthbert Arthur Brereton, he married a Jenner from Wenvoe Castle.

Stephen K Jones, Institution of Civil Engineers Panel for Historical Engineering Works

Should people be jailed for not paying council tax? Vale Council says it needs the option

A COUNCIL has defended sending people who don't pay council tax to prison after more than a dozen of its residents were jailed for the offence in recent years.

The Welsh Government is asking councils whether it should remove the threat of imprisonment for non-payment of council tax.

The Vale Council is expected to tell the Welsh Government it is against the removing the threat – despite critics calling it a 'Victorian' measure.

It comes after 16 people in the Vale have been put behind bars for non-payment of council tax between 2013/14 and 2017/18.

A total of 19,839 summonses taking people to court were issued to Vale residents in that time, Leader of the Vale Council, John Thomas, confirmed in July.

The council also said secured £416,712 during the past four years from people who refused to pay council tax through court summonses.

It said thousands of warning letters, sent before reaching the court summons stage, are being ignored by people who refuse to engage.

The Vale Council's draft response to Welsh Government said: "To suggest that committal should end without a viable alternative is simply unrealistic and would inevitably lead to a reduction in collection rates when council resources and services are already over stretched.

"If no viable alternative is available, then this could also encourage other customers who currently pay their council tax to resist payment as the collection process would be far less effective resulting in increased write-offs."

The council said it is "very selective" in ensuring that action is only taken "against those debtors who refuse to engage".

Imprisonment for non-payment of council tax was described by Plaid Cymru councillor Ian Johnson in July as a "Victorian practice".

A study by the Institute of Money Advisers and Payplan last year found court action by local authorities against people with council tax debt has "increased dramatically" since 2012 in Wales.

Their report said: "The litigious nature of council tax collection is out of step with the way that other civil debts are dealt with in the courts.

"There is also clear evidence that there are miscarriages of justice in the imprisonment of people for having council debts. The consequences for people imprisoned for council tax debt can be very severe. Advisers report that people who are behind with their bills often feel threatened with imprisonment even when there is no realistic prospect of lawful imprisonment in these cases."

A report to the Vale Cabinet said: "The council actively pursues debtors who have received reminders and court orders requiring them to pay their arrears of council tax, but who, despite being able to pay, have not done so.

"Action at this level is only taken as last resort with the numbers committed to prison being very low. No one has been imprisoned since January 2017 for non-payment of council tax in the Vale of Glamorgan.

"However, it is considered that this is an important option that the council should be able to utilise where an individual is opting not to pay their council tax bill."

Matt Discombe, Local Democracy Reporter

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NATIONAL EYE HEALTH WEEK

MONDAY 24TH - SUNDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER 2018 **YOUR VISION MATTERS**

The eyes have it!

WE all know the importance of looking after ourselves, making sure our lifestyles choice are healthy ones and that we keep fit and active.

But we tend to take our eyes and eyesight for granted, which is why National Eye Health Week (September 24-30) highlights the importance of eye health and the need for regular sight tests.

For everyday spectacle wearers, that's not just turning up for a two-year check-up at your local optician, it's also about making sure your eyes are cared for on a daily basis.

One of the simplest ways of ensuring healthy vision is to protect eyes from harmful UV light all year round. Constant exposure to UV rays is not only harmful to the skin but also to the eyes. Over time, it can accelerate ageing of the skin around the eyes and cause various forms of eye disorders such as cataracts, macula degeneration and eyelid skin cancers.

'Check your eyesight on a regular basis'

NATIONAL Eye Health Week (September 24-30) aims to raise awareness of the importance of eye health and the need for everyone to have sight checks every two years, to look after their eyes.

Dr Adrian Jones, from Jones & Jones optometrists, High Street, Barry, said: "Almost two million people in the UK are living with sight loss yet over half of sight loss can be avoided, so it is vital everyone takes care of their eyes. "Sight is the sense people fear losing the most, yet many of us don't know the best way to look after our eyes.

"This is why it is so important you get your eye health tested every two years at least, even if you think your vision is fine, as some eye conditions may not show symptoms. Visit visionmatters.org.uk."

Facts about vision loss: 20 million people in the UK could be at risk of avoidable sight loss because they fail to have regular sight tests. Almost two million people in the UK are living with sight loss, yet over half of sight loss can be avoided. This means that almost two million people have a sight problem which has a serious impact on their daily lives.

The figure is made up of people who are registered blind and partially sighted, and all the other people whose sight problems have a significant impact on daily activities. Not all of these people can be registered as blind or partially-sighted. Sight loss affects people of all ages.

The number of people in the UK with sight loss is set to increase dramatically. It is predicted hat by 2050, the number of people with sight loss in the UK will double to nearly four million.

Dr Adrian Jones is listed on the GOC Specialist Register as an Therapeutic IP Optometrist with a special interest in acute eyecare and glaucoma and holds the College of Optometrists Higher Diplomas in glaucoma and therapeutics.

Make an appointment today – call 01446 400015 or visit www.jonesandjones.org.uk.

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Taking a closer look at Barry Eye Centre…

ARE you looking for a reliable company that can offer eye tests in Barry?

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Barry Eye Centre has more than 27 years' experience in providing customers with an excellent level of service.

Based in Barry, we offer our services to the general public, carrying out both NHS and private examinations.

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We are also able to fit contact lenses on-site, as well as selling sunglasses, so whenever you are in need of professional opticians in Barry, you know you need to call Barry Eye Centre Ltd.

We are open six days a week and are professional and friendly at all times.

We take the care of your eyes very seriously and work hard to ensure that you have good eye health.

We're proud of the standard of our care to our customers and feel sure that you won't be disappointed that you chose Barry Eye Centre Ltd when you needed eye tests in Penarth.

For more information, contact us on 01446 745606, or info@barryeyecentrebarry.co.uk.

Inspiring people to look after their eyes…

LOCAL optometrist Annette Dobbs of Annette Dobbs Eyecare in Barry hopes to encourage people to take better care of their sight during National Eye Health Week.

Annette explained: "Research shows that half of all sight loss is avoidable, so we want to inspire the residents of Barry to look after their eyes.

"Sight is the sense that people fear losing the most, that's why it's so important to get your eyes checked regularly by a qualified optometrist."

In Wales, we are particularly lucky that the NHS covers many people's eye tests.

Annette's practice at 40 Tynewydd Road, Barry, carries out the full range of ophthalmic services for all age groups, including emergency care.

They've recently invested in a new, easily accessible ground floor consulting room that is fully fitted with the latest equipment including a state-of-the art Optical Coherence Tomography machine (OCT).

The OCT not only takes a digital photograph of the back of the eye but also captures a cross-sectional scan which enables earlier detection of sight-threatening eye diseases such as age-related macular degeneration and glaucoma.

Early detection is vital to prevent avoidable sight loss so don't forget to book an eye test during National Eye Health Week. For more information, contact Annette Dobbs Eyecare on 01446 735130.

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Our team of committed teachers are passionate about learning and continually strive to look for innovative ways of helping young people to learn better and more effectively.

Our long tradition of academic excellence places us as one of the highest performing schools in Wales. As a result we will talk to you about children, our story and the next steps in our journey. We talk and care about children not statistics.

Our caring, nurturing ethos permeates all aspects of school life. High levels of care, support and guidance coupled with our high expectations ensures a calm, purposeful learning environment.

Our proud tradition of sporting excellence means that our sportsmen and women regularly achieve regional, national and international honours, at an enviable range of sports.

Our exceptional range of activities beyond the classroom are central to life at the school; each year boasts a great repertoire of musical and drama performances, visits and actives.

Our facilities are state of the art. However, we dream big and then bigger again. Our ongoing capital development programme means our facilities and resources will remain amongst the very best in Wales.

Above all, we are distinguished by our students, they are our finest ambassadors.
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WI members learn all about NSPCC

MEMBERS of St Hilary WI were delighted to be back together and planning new adventures and meetings for the autumn.

Members enjoyed two social gatherings over the summer. We visited a beautiful garden in Barry and had a coffee morning in Aberthin, where we admired Jackie's garden and ate cake! The event raised £52 for the planting of a WI commemorative tree in St Hilary.

Emma Brennan, fundraising manager for the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC), gave an informative talk on the multi-faceted role of the charity in the 21st century.

Did you know the services offered by the NSPCC begin with children, even before they are born? That every child in primary school will generally receive two school assemblies during this phase of their education? The assemblies teach children important life skills to help them stay safe.

Emma outlined a KS2 assembly, 'A Sack of Worries', in which children discuss what might be troubling them and who might be a trusted adult they can turn to. Children are taught how to access help if they are experiencing abuse (sexual, physical, emotional or neglect) from Childline and the website www.childline.org.uk.

Emma also shared some educational videos; one,'Pantosaurus' is for the U5s and is produced by renowned animators Aardman.

Did you know that most children contact Childline today via a text? The Welsh Childline service received in the region of 100,000 on-line requests for help or advice, last year, far exceeding telephone calls.

The NSPCC clearly works in a demanding area of modern life and in a rapidly changing landscape eg children's 24/7 interaction with social media and the world-wide-web. The NSPCC is needed as much today as it was 100+ years ago (sad though this is)!

Members all agreed, the work of the NSPCC is well worth supporting. **CN**

Sunflower season...

Reader Catherine Lowery sent in this picture of her daughter with the sunflower she planted in her grandparents' garden. At over 8ft tall, could this be our winner?

ADVERTORIAL

'Diet pill miracle claims are hard to swallow' – The Slimming World view

A NEW diet pill may be available soon and Sarah Creasey, a Slimming World consultant with a group in Trinity Street, Barry, offers the SW view:

She said: "A lot of people have asked me about media reports of a new 'wonder' diet pill soon to hit the UK, called Lorcaserin and touted as the 'Holy Grail' of diet pills.

"Does it work and is it safe?

"Many wild and unfounded claims have been made about this 'miracle' weight loss pill, which is currently only licenced in the US. If it were to be approved in the UK that doesn't mean it will be available on the NHS, and privately could cost between £150 and £250 a month.

"I know I'd much rather spend that on healthy food, a great eating plan and spending time with like-minded people who can help, support and encourage me.

"Secondly, clinical trials found that the average weight loss was only 9lb over 40 months. Following a healthy eating plan and joining a weight loss group where you could lose up to 9lb much sooner is surely more effective.

"During my own weight loss journey of 30 years I have tried many 'fad diets' including the F-plan; the cabbage diet; the vodka diet, every supplement and shake on the market, herbal remedies, old wives' remedies and over the counter 'miracle' slimming pills, even gastric band surgery as a desperate last resort!

"Guess what? You got it…they didn't work! And they don't for the vast majority of us.

"The only solution I have found is my Slimming World group; over the years I've joined, lost weight, left, gained weight and joined again over and over.

"Finally I realised that this was a lifelong problem with a lifelong solution right in front of my eyes. Eureka!

"So I ditched the fad diets, shakes and pills and re-joined Slimming World with renewed determination to make it a lifelong commitment. With wonderful guidance from my amazing Slimming World consultant Martin Woodsford and support from my group, I reached my target weight last February... and I've stayed there with ease ever since.

Sarah before and after.

"I became a consultant myself and have just graduated as a fully-fledged Slimming World consultant, with a lovely group in Trinity Church in Barry. It wasn't easy, but I had so much support and that's what you'll get if you come along. It could be the start of a new you!

"A warm welcome, a complimentary cuppa and all the support you need are waiting every Tuesday, 5.30pm at Trinity Street Church.

"Give me a ring on 07917881220 if you'd like a chat."

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98.5% Year 9 pupils gained Level 5 or more in their subjects

GCSE Results 2018
100% achieved 5 or more A* - G grades
89.2% 5 or more A* - C
75% L2+ (5 or more A* - C including English and Maths)
English, Maths and Science - best results in Bridgend
A* - C pass rates: English 89.2%, Maths 77.6%, Science 82.3%
96.6% pass Welsh Baccalaureate

A Level Performance 2018
One third of all results were A*/A grade (32.5%)
More than 4 out of 5 were C grade or better (82.3%)
99.6% achieved 2 or more passes at A Level
38% pupils attending Russell Group Universities

These are the best results our school has ever had, and are the best in the Bridgend area.

The school has been delighted to welcome our new Year 7 and Sixth Form pupils - once again many joining us from out of catchment.

"I couldn't believe how welcoming everybody was and how quickly I settled in."

Any student or parent can obtain more information and a school prospectus by emailing
info@porthcawlschool.co.uk
Alternatively you may wish to telephone 01656 774100.

Further information can be found on the school website: www.porthcawlschool.co.uk

Out & About with The GEM

What's on and where

Tractor run

A CLASSIC tractor road run is being held on Sunday, September 23 at 10am starting from Llanilid Farm, Pencoed, CF35 5LA, supporting Nick's Trust Fund and Marie Curie in memory of Lizzie Edwards.

Entry is £10 per tractor/vehicle/4x4 and will feature a guest appearance by Welsh rugby international players at the half way stop and auction items including a Gareth Bale signed football shirt and pair of worn football boots, plus a Cardiff City signed football. Refreshments will include a hog roast and Sub Zero ice cream.

Further information from Wayne Griffiths on 07866 495064; come and join the fun!

Colwinston Youth Club

COULD you inspire young people in your community?

Colwinston Youth Club has vacancies volunteers to help out in the Youth Club on a Friday evenings. Do you have a skill you could share or have a couple of hours when you can help out?

The young people of Colwinston and the surrounding areas want to keep their youth club open but can't do it without some adults to help

The club is holding an open evening on Friday, September 21 between 7pm and 9pm. Call in to meet the members and see what we do. Refreshments and a barbecue available. If you can't come Friday but are interested contact colwinstonyouthclub@hotmail.com or call 07710 209437 for information.

Charity sale

A 50P sale will be held in All Saints' Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth on Wednesday, September 26 from 2pm until 3.30pm. Entry 50p, many bargains for all; proceeds for charity.

PACT meetings

COME along to Gibbonsdown 'Cuppa with a Copper' held every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close between 10am and 12 noon.

Meet local officers at Penarth Library on Thursday, September 27 at 5pm.

Meet PCSO Angela Stone at the village shop, Colwinston on Tuesday, September 25 at 11am.

Arts and crafts

LLANTWIT Major Art and Craft Group will meet on Friday, September 21 at 7.30 pm in Llantonian Hall.

It will be a practical evening where people bring whatever they are currently working on. Visitors are welcome to join us for a chat and a cup of coffee or tea. There is a small fee of £3 for non-members.

Councillors' surgery

DYFAN ward councillors Vincent Bailey and Leighton Rowlands will be holding an advice surgery offering help and support to local people at St David's Methodist Church, Winston Road Barry, from 10.30am-11.30am on Saturday, September 22; no appointment necessary.

Tax advice

DO you worry about your tax affairs? Age Connects Cardiff and Vale run a free monthly session on the last Monday in the month.

The next session will be be held on Monday, September 24 at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry, from 9.30am to 11.30am.

No appointment is needed; just come along. Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Gardening club

COWBRIDGE Gardening Club will meet again on Thursday, September 27 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall when David Jay will be speaking on roses. New members and visitors welcome.

Carers' service

LIVING as a carer means living under tremendous stress and pressure; caring for a loved one may involve grief, uncertainty, fear, frustration, anger, sadness and other difficult emotions.

As a carer you may find yourself asking questions such as 'Why is all this happening to us?' or 'How will I get through this?' Holy Cross Church in Cowbridge offers help and support.

On Thursday, September 27 at 2pm there will be a service for carers; this will be a quiet service with prayers and space to be still. Afterwards, there will be time to talk to other carers over a cup of tea.

If you would like more information contact Rev Victoria Ashley on 01446 775381; or vicar@cowbridgeparish.com.

Community cinema on the up in Penarth

IN spring 2017, the closure of the cinema on the Penarth Pier Pavilion was announced and after going to several of the meetings in local pubs, we at All Saints' Penarth, decided to set up a community cinema.

The first screening last September was *The Italian Job*, starring Michael Caine. We had an audience of 50 and thought we had arrived!

Now each month we have a regular audience of approximately 100 people. We offer a warm welcome, friendships have been made over the year, and our films sell out almost as soon as they are announced. We have shown films from *Murder on the Orient Express* to *Victoria and Abdul*.

Due to our continued success we are now able to get up-to-date films with our most recent screening in September of the *Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Society* starring Lily James and Tom Courtenay.

The next screening is *Edie* starring Sheila Hancock and currently has a waiting list. For details, contact allsaints.communitycinema@btinternet.com.

The Social Group at All Saint's Church have done a terrific job of screening films which are attracting a wide audience and wish them continued success as they go from strength to strength. Everyone in the cinema shared in the first birthday cake.

JM

The Predator makes for fun, but frustrating, viewing...

OVER the last 31 years, the Predator has gone from being a solo killing machine, to becoming embroiled in a cartel war, to fighting aliens through to hunting Adrien Brody and Laurence Fishburne.

Under the auspices of Shane Black, the latest Predator film to hit cinema screens is simply titled *The Predator*. Boyd Holbrook plays Quinn McKenna, a sniper who gets caught up in events when a Predator ship crashes on earth.

With the military (led by Sterling K Brown) determined to cover up the incident, Quinn is sent to be locked up with a group of patients, themselves former soldiers (amongst them Trevante Rhodes, Thomas Jane and Keegan Michael-Key).

However, Quinn leads an escape when he realises the Predator is going after his son (Jacob Tremblay), who has intercepted some Predator technology sent home by Quinn as evidence.

Teaming up with biologist Casey Bracket (Olivia Munn), can this ragtag mob stop the Predator? And what if this alien is just the tip of the iceberg?

Shane Black films never really follow the genre guidelines. See how he redefined the action genre with *Lethal Weapon* or how he undercut the Marvel blockbuster template with the irreverent (and for my money under appreciated) *Iron Man 3*.

The Predator works on the same level, a film that pays lip service to the series thus far, but a film that is resolutely a Shane Black piece of work. How much you enjoy it will depend on your love of the man's work and how closely you hold the *Predator* film series.

Co-written with Fred Dekker (who co-wrote the seminal 1987 *Monster Squad* with Black), this is a film that attunes 1980s action blockbuster sensibilities to 21st century filmmaking; and for the first two-thirds of the film, it works well.

You have characters that, if under-explored, are enjoyable enough company that you can engage with them, a plot that kicks in straight away and doesn't offer any let up at all, and action sequences that are fun.

Then you get to the final third, and everything that's gone before is undone by a climax that plays by the rules that Black and Dekker have so wilfully ignored previously.

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

Knowing that the entire third act was rewritten and reshot doesn't help, but it's almost as if the pair realised that one of the joys of the *Predator* franchise is seeing the gigantic alien rain down the pain on his prey a little too late in the day.

So what we get is an ending that rushes to the finishing line and cleaves a little too closely to the 1987 film, full of continuity errors and overly-exuberant editing, with a desire to off as many characters as possible before we reach the traditional genre face-off.

It's disappointing as what precedes it is, while hardly earth-shattering, reasonably good fun. Black's trademark smart dialogue gives a frisson to proceedings, while his direction (despite some iffy CGI) is a relentless smorgasbord of gun fire, woundings and action, amping up that 1980s feeling.

The cast are all pleasing enough without overly pushing things. Boyd Holbrook makes a relatable, if grouchy, lead and Olivia Munn brings smarts and personality to what could have been a basic character.

Sterling K Brown has plenty of fun chewing the scenery as a military figure on the trail of the Predator, while the former soldiers who become embroiled in Quinn's mission to save his son (the always excellent Jacob Tremblay) bring a humour that lightens the mood considerably and gives the film a lighter tone.

This is a film that doesn't play things too straight; its ability to deliver just a hint of cheekiness (comparing the Predator to Whoopi Goldberg, dismissing the handle of the Predator because his MO is more that of a hunter) means its tone never becomes too portentous (aside from the finale) and that offers something different than what we've seen in *Predator* films thus far.

However, with its rule-playing climax (and a ham-fisted slice of sequel-baiting) it chafes with what's gone before, and it leaves *The Predator* being a fun, but frustrating, experience.

VERDICT: Two-thirds enjoyable, one third terrible, *The Predator* makes for a quirky and satisfying experience – at least until its ending, which plays too safe and predictably in comparison to what's gone before. It's a little shaggy in places, but Shane Black's handling of it is, in the main, more than solid and makes it reasonably pleasing effort. *Average*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Iron Man 3* (2013), *Predator* (1987).

News in brief

Support group for partially sighted

CARDIFF and Vale Institute for the Blind works to help blind and partially sighted people across Wales to enjoy independent and fulfilling lives.

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a drop in information session on Tuesday, September 25 at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry from 10am to 12pm. You will be able to chat to a professional from the Society on aids, practical support etc. No appointment is needed; call 01446 732385 for further information.

Oral hygiene

NATIONAL Smile Month is a campaign to help improve oral care, and it's not just about education, it's about having fun.

Cardiff and Vale Dental are taking part in this campaign and will hold a session at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, September 25 from 10am to 12pm and no appointment is needed.

Oral care can cause problems with diet, medication, poor eyesight, disability with arms and hands etc. Come and have a chat to a health care professional from the team. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

Falls prevention

AS we get older, a fall can have serious consequences; so if you are at risk of a fall or know someone who is, come along to a talk on falls prevention by Anita Williams, occupational therapist, and falls coordinator with Bridgend Care and Repair.

The talk takes place in St Theodore's Church, High Street, Kenfig Hill on Tuesday, September 25 at 2pm. Free and open to all.

Family fun

A HARVEST 'family fun day' takes place on Saturday, September 29 from 4pm–6pm at Bethel Baptist Church, Harbour Road, Barry CF62 5SA; all welcome.

All Saints' quiz

You don't need to be Brain of Britain, an Egghead or Mastermind, but if you want a good fun evening then All Saints' Penarth social group has just the thing for you.

Quiz night is on Saturday, October 6 at 7.30pm in All Saints' parish church hall in Victoria Square, Penarth (CF64 3EH).

Tickets £7.50 to include refreshments from Griffin Books, Penarth or on line at www.ticketsource.co.uk/all-saint-cinema-club. Maximum six per team, but don't worry if you have not got a team – come along and join another table.

Prize for the winning – and the losing – team too! Licensed bar (limited number of tickets).

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Christmas Party Guide

TOWN OR COUNTRY? There's plenty of choices for your Christmas outing!

THERE is a lot to be said for planning an office Christmas party as a real outing, and in the Vale and Bridgend areas, that can mean a trip into one of our towns or out into the country.

So many venues – be they country pubs, hotels or establishments in small villages – are now tuned into welcoming Christmas parties, and they have become skilled at meeting all requirements.

Naturally people want to enjoy a few drinks at a party so it makes sense to hire a mini-bus so no-one has to drive home.

A mini-bus or coach can be part of the build-up to the evening. It can increase the 'buzz' and camaraderie, getting everyone relaxed and in a party mood before you set foot in the venue.

So much has changed over the years when it comes to dining.

Twenty years ago many establishments had very predictable styles of cuisine.

Country pubs and public houses in towns would serve up something traditional and wholesome, like a roast dinner perhaps, followed by a dessert of trusty Black Forest gateau or ice-cream.

Now the culinary landscape has been transformed, the chefs have escaped the confines of conformity and are keen to create their own 'specials' and offer something different – often very different!

Competition has meant an improvement in quality across the board.

Nowadays, menus are put together that have an excellent chance of satisfying the varied tastes of any random group of diners-out.

As customers have become more discerning – and this may well be due to all the Masterchef-style programmes on TV – so local chefs have responded.

So make that choice. Do you want an evening out in a local town – a restaurant or hotel perhaps?

Or maybe the relaxation of the country pub is more appealing to your family or fellow office workers.

Venues are already producing their Christmas menus and making arrangements for entertainment. So do your research, make your choice, and then you can relax for the Autumn, content that the office Christmas party is sorted out and there will be no last minute rush.

PI

Don't dawdle and dither... Make that Christmas booking!

WHEN it comes to booking that work do (or office party) for Christmas, just about the worst thing you can do is think too much and try too hard.

There is, of course, a great deal of pressure involved – it would be foolish to deny that.

The trouble is, that desire to get everything dead right can be your worst enemy, and it can lead to the main pitfall of party planning – being too late to get your choice.

It soon gets round the office that the 'first choice' was already booked – and then the second, and so on until the word among the staff is that it has all gone pear-shaped and that everyone has to make do with a place that was nowhere near first on the list.

Workplaces often get in this position when they set up a 'party group' who research the options, have a few meetings, talk endlessly, and then go home having failed to agree.

In the meantime, popular venues in the area are taking bookings and filling up.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

FINNEGANS INN
FINNEGANS CHRISTMAS PARTY
CABARET NIGHTS Only £20 3 Course + Cabaret
CALL TO BOOK YOUR TABLE ONLY £5 DEPOSIT PER PERSON BOOK EARLY 01446 749355

Roast Butternut Squash Soup with Garlic Toasts
Chicken Liver Pate with Melba Toast & Balsamic Onion Marmalade
Traditional Prawn Cocktail
Traditional Roast Turkey with Seasonal Veg, Roast Potatoes Gravy & Cranberry Sauce
Baked Salmon Fillet with Green Beans & Hollandaise Sauce
Wild Mushroom Risotto (V) with Balsamic Glaze & Parmesan
Traditional Christmas Pudding & Brandy Sauce
Bread & Butter Pudding with Custard
Lemon Tart with Fresh Cream

SATURDAY DECEMBER 1st
DANCING QUEEN
FANTASTIC ABBA GIRLS TRIBUTE SHOW
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WHITNEY HOUSTON
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SATURDAY DECEMBER 8th
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Lunch Menu for Christmas Parties
(to include a glass of Prosecco on arrival)
Smoked Salmon with Horseradish & Creme Fraiche
Deep Fried Onion Rings with our own Chutney
Mushrooms with Chilli, Garlic and Ginger sautéed in Olive Oil
Pissaladiere: Provencale Onion and Tomato Tart
Deep Fried Calamari with our own Tartare Sauce

Butter and Herb Roasted Free Range Turkey
with seasonal vegetables and Parsley & Thyme Stuffing
Chicken Breast with Wild Mushroom, White Wine & Cream Sauce
Battered Cod & Chips
Roasted Salmon with Tomatoes and Basil
A vegetarian trio of Baked Stuffed Peppers, Spinach and Cream Cheese Pancake and Roasted Stuffed Mushrooms

Mrs Villa's Christmas Pudding & Brandy Butter
Caramelised Oranges and Cream
Winter Fruit Compoté with Meringue and Clotted Cream
Chocolate and Apricot Tart
Créme Bruleé
Hazelnut & Raspberry Meringue

£22.50 per person

Dinner Menu for Christmas Parties
(to include a glass of Prosecco on arrival)
Smoked Salmon with Horseradish & Creme Fraiche
Fresh Crab and Prawn Cocktail
Mushrooms with Chilli, Garlic and Ginger sautéed in Olive Oil
Pissaladiere: Provencale Onion and Tomato Tart
Deep Fried Calamari with our own Tartare Sauce
Chicken Liver Paté

Butter and Herb Roasted Free Range Turkey
with seasonal vegetables and Parsley & Thyme Stuffing
Chicken Breast with Wild Mushroom, White Wine & Cream Sauce
Medallions of Fillet of Beef, Deep Fried Onion Rings, Roasted Tomatoes and Bearnaise Sauce (£5.00 extra)
King Prawns in Garlic Butter
Roasted Hake in a Beurre Blanc Sauce
A vegetarian trio of Baked Stuffed Peppers, Spinach and Cream Cheese Pancake and Roasted Stuffed Mushrooms

Mrs Villa's Christmas Pudding & Brandy Butter
Caramelised Oranges and Cream
Winter Fruit Compoté with Meringue and Clotted Cream
Chocolate and Apricot Tart • Créme Bruleé
Hazelnut & Raspberry Meringue

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All main courses served with a choice of Chips, Mashed or New Boiled Potatoes
Available from 20th November. Parties of 6 or more a pre-order is required.

BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN
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Christmas Party Guide

You have to be quick off the mark to make your party booking!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

While this 'party group' have the best intentions, the whole thing so often fails to come together, because the more opinions that are offered, the more complicated it all gets.

Oops! There goes another popular venue – all booked up.

However, if the working party gets stuck in and makes a firm, early decision, then what happens is that everyone in the office adjusts – because they know it was not a last-minute choice.

It won't be perfect for everyone – no place ever is, but it was a choice – not a last minute substitute.

So, if you draw the short straw and are involved in planning the office party, remember that the worst thing you can do is let the process drag on.

You might end up with a brilliant venue, but the delay will mean that some fellow workers will approach the evening with suspicion.

Here in the Vale, diners are spoiled for choice, because keen competition keeps standards high.

It's far more important to make a firm decision than to get stuck in a spiral of pointless research.

The moral of this Christmas tale is simple: Be decisive, don't dilly dally, and get your venue booked now!

PHILIP IRWIN

The Small Space means big fun!

ADVERTORIAL

HAVING only opened at the beginning of the year, The Small Space in Barry has already really taken off as a unique entertainment venue.

Billed as the world's smallest magic theatre, it has not only hosted live jazz, stand-up comedy, vinyl nights and international magicians from Italy, the United States and Holland, but it has also built a reputation as a fantastic private party venue, complete with regionally-sourced buffet.

Magic Circle magicians and directors, Bryan Gunton and Jasper Blakeley are the hosts and resident magicians who are now getting ready for the festive party season.

"It's been a mad few months with incredible feedback and huge local support but it's

Christmas party time now and that's another level of fun," said Jasper.

"Our regionally-sourced cheese and cold meat platters have really been well received; add to that our intimate upstairs bar with large range of gins mixed with some breathtaking magic, and we've been lucky to have received scores of five star reviews for our public shows and private parties."

The Small Space is booking private parties featuring full magic shows and food on afternoons and evenings throughout December, so if you fancy something different email *info@thesmallspace.co.uk* for details.

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Christmas Party Guide

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The morning after the party before!

CHRISTMAS is the season to be 'merry' but drinking too much alcohol can have the opposite effect, leaving you feeling very much the worse for wear!

So, you should seriously consider taking it easy and not overdoing things during the festive season – and, above all – *never be tempted to drink and drive*.

However, the flesh is weak so here is The GEM guide to recovery if you do have more than you intended.

THE TOP TIPS ARE:

1/ Eat before you party! Food slows down the absorbtion of alcohol and protects the stomach lining.

2/ Don't mix grape and grain. Simply put, beer and whisky come from grain, whereas wine and cognac come from grapes. If you are not sure what sambuca, ouzo or retsina are made from, then you may have to do some research or ask a friendly waiter.

3/ If you smoke, cut down. Smoking makes you want to drink more.

4/ Drink a pint of water before you go to bed. This will counteract the dehydration effect of alcohol.

5/ Some people advise taking evening primrose oil, which is alleged to boost liver function, helping the body break down alcohol in the system.

6/ When you have had enough, just say NO.

7/ Drink plenty of water with your wine.

This will slow down your alcohol intake, and it will also stop that dehydration effect.

The FONTYGARY INN

Christmas Party Bookings
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Live Entertainment every Friday & Saturday evening

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Festive Menu

STARTERS
Today's soup *Served with rustic bread*
Prawn & Avocado Cocktail
With a Marie Rose sauce served with rustic bread
Rustic Farmhouse Parfait
With a festive chutney and toasted ciabatta
Deep Fried Welsh Brie
With winter berry compote
Sauté of Garlic Mushrooms

MAINS
All served with seasonal vegetables & potatoes of your choice
Roast Glamorgan Turkey Breast
With fluffy beef-dripping roast potatoes, sage, onion and cranberry stuffing, pigs in blankets
Roasted Winter Vegetable Wellington
With seasonal vegetables wrapped in puff pastry
Homemade Welsh Gourmet Burger
With grilled Chorizo, welsh cheddar and crispy onion rings
Glamorgan Turkey, Gammon Ham and Fresh Tarragon Pie
Pan Roasted Fillet of Sea Bass
On a bed of Chorizo, samphire and sauté potatoes
10-12oz hand cut Local Ribeye Steak + (£5)
Cooked to your liking
Festive Hunters Chicken
Butterflied chicken breast, barbeque sauce, cured bacon, grilled cheese and cranberry sauce

PUDDING
All served with custard, cream or ice cream
Christmas Pudding
Filled with minced fruits and almonds served with a warm brandy sauce
Baileys Cheesecake
Double Chocolate Fudge Cake
Chocolate Amaretto Torte
Trio of Ice Cream
Your choice of Welsh farmhouse ice cream. Add a liqueur for £2.
Apple & Cinnamon Crumble
Citrus Sorbet

ADD SOME FIZZ
Prosecco *1 Bottle £18 • 2 Bottles £30*
House Champagne *1 Bottle £27• 2 Bottles £45*

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PICTURED (left to right) are Deputy Mayor's consort Jayne Norman, Deputy Mayor of Barry Margaret Wilkinson, Michelle O'Neil-Kiddie, The Right Reverend Bishop June Osborne, Rev Kevin Lake Team Vicar, Rector Ben Atkinson and Anthony Brown.

Church roof is re-dedicated at All Saints

ON September 9, All Saints' Church Barry had a re-dedication of the church roof by The Right Reverend June Osborne, Bishop of Llandaff.

The church is two years into a three year project, and following many fundraising events and grant applications, work on the new roof began in January 2018. The work was done by Camilleri Roofing contractors and was completed in March.

Bishop June led the celebratory service which was accompanied by the All Saints' Church choir and Blackweir Brass, which included students from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

At the re-dedication and blessing of the roof, a large slate plaque was unveiled to commemorate the occasion.

A wooden plaque had also been made, listing all the partners that have supported the project. Grants were received from the Heritage Lottery Fund, National Churches Trust, Welsh Churches Act, Garfield Weston Foundation, All Churches Trust, James Pantyfedwen Foundation and Barry Town Council.

The service was attended by Michelle O'Neil-Kiddie from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Anthony Brown from the National Churches Trust, Marco Camilleri of Camilleri Roofing and the deputy mayor of Barry Margaret Wilkinson and her consort, Jayne Norman.

The chairman of the project, Paul Donovan outlined the achievements to-date of the project and said: "The final stage will be concentrating on the community element which we hope will be completed by March 2019".

As part of a fundraising exercise, a number of placemats and coasters had been made from the original slate roof, dating back to 1908. Two coasters were presented to Bishop June during the service and the remainder sold to raise money for the project.

Garden receives donation boost

Georgia Bennett and Cllr Ken Lloyd at West House Gardens.

IN Penarth, West House garden's eye-catching transformation received a generous boost on recently with a new public bench and table.

Cllr Ken Lloyd and his consort, Ms Georgia Bennett donated the items in commemoration of their service as Penarth's 2017-18 Town Mayor and Consort but also, and more importantly, in memory of their late spouses, Joan Lloyd and John Bennett.

The donation and installation was marked with a ceremony on September 14, attended by friends, colleagues and well-wishers, along with the current Town Mayor Cllr Jon Luxton.

The seating provides a peaceful, contemplative space in the public garden, serving as a suitable tribute to Ken and Georgia's loved ones, along with their tireless work as Mayor and Consort.

This newest addition is the latest in the ongoing transformation of West House Garden and the successful Penarth in Bloom project.

Whitmore High School

Year 6 Open Evening
Thursday 27th September
from 5pm-7pm

Whitmore High School is delighted to invite parents and students for a presentation and personal tour of the school in preparation for entry in September 2019. Newly-opened for boys and girls in September 2018, the school offers parents the highest standards of education, behaviour and well-being - including a history of outstanding examination results. Please visit if you are looking for a caring environment where students are supported and encouraged to excel.

Open mornings and tours will also be available from 15-26 October 9am - 10.30am.

Please attend or contact the school for further information.

Website:
www.whitmorehigh.org
Twitter:
@Whitmore High School

BCBC mulls cutting all public bus subsidies

BRIDGEND County Borough Council (BCBC) is considering withdrawing all of the subsidies that it provides towards local bus services.

BCBC and Welsh Government support regional and local bus services by subsidising routes that, said a spokesperson, "...may not be commercially viable".

BCBC began the current financial year with a budget of £180,000 to put towards bus services and community transport, which was supplemented by a Welsh Government grant of £386,826.

Earlier this year, cabinet members agreed to cut the subsidy for six partly-funded bus routes around Bridgend. Since taking that decision in May, all but one of the six routes are continuing to operate commercially by the bus companies in some form, albeit with revised timetables that may involve less frequent services.

After monitoring the impact of removing those subsidies, cabinet members have agreed to support the removal of all remaining funding for supported bus services in the county borough from 2019/20 onwards to help, continued the spokesperson, "...the local authority meet future savings targets".

A full public consultation will now be held in the next few months so that local residents can have their say before the final decision is taken.

Cllr Richard Young, the council's cabinet member for communities, said: "Our recent experience demonstrates that the removal of subsidies will not necessarily mean that all routes will no longer be provided in some form.

"However, the decision to operate them in full or part would lie with the operators who may decide to stop running journeys that aren't deemed as being commercially viable.

"No-one wants to see money wasted on empty buses making journeys that aren't in demand, but there are obviously many local residents who do rely on catching a bus to go about their daily lives.

"Before we make any final decision over withdrawing the subsidies we will hold a public consultation to gather local people's views and will also discuss the matter with the bus companies. We can then properly consider the implications arising from the possible removal of this funding."

Withdrawing all remaining subsidies would affect the following eight bus services:

Number 67 First Cymru service from Bridgend to Aberkenfig via Pen-y-Fai (Monday to Saturday).

Number 37 Easyway service from Maesteg Parc Estate (Daytime Monday to Saturday)

Number 73 First Cymru service from Bridgend to Blaengarw (Evenings Monday to Saturday)

Number 76 First Cymru service from Bridgend to Bettws, Vale View Diversion (Monday to Saturday)

Number 51 Easyway service from Bridgend to Oaklands Road (Daytime Monday to Saturday)

Number 803 Travel Final service from Danygraig to Porthcawl (Monday to Saturday)

Number 61 Peyton Travel service from Nottage to Porthcawl (Circular) (Monday to Saturday)

Number 16 Easyway service from Bridgend to Blaengarw via Heol-y-Mynydd and Braich-y-Cymmer (Daytime Monday to Saturday)

The BCBC spokesperson said: "The borough council has saved £30 million in the last three years, but over the next three years will need to save £30m more to balance the books."

NB. This story broke as the GEM was going to press, although The GEM will follow this story in the coming weeks.

If you are likely to be affected by this proposal, or have any thoughts on the matter, please send you correspondence to editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk.

A day of fundraising at St Clare's School

STAFF and pupils from St Clare's School, Porthcawl made a tremendous effort to raise money for three cancer charities recently.

Boys and girls from the prep school, senior school and sixth form came to school in pink sportswear to run the Race for Life and fundraise for Macmillan Cancer Support, Cancer Research UK, Cost of Cancer and Breast Cancer Awareness.

Visitors to the school may have been surprised to see quite so much pink being worn in school but it was all for a good cause.

Much of the fundraising was co-ordinated by St Clare's sixth formers.

During the morning there were very popular cake sales.Staff and pupils all took part in 1K, 3K and 5K sponsored runs in glorious sunshine during the afternoon.

Well done to everyone who took part and for raising so much money for such worthwhile cancer charities.Thank you to all our lovely parents and families for sponsoring us so generously. **HF**

Pipe dream? Council CAT ramps up plans for Pencoed skatepark

PLANS to turn a tennis court into a £60,000 skatepark in Pencoed was due to go before cabinet members of Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) on September 18).

The plans are part of a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) between the local authority and Pencoed Town Council.

The town council wants to take on a 35-year lease for two tennis courts at Pencoed Recreation Ground – one of which has already been converted into a 'multi-use games area'.

BCBC's CAT steering group approved the lease in October 2017 but the transfer now needs to be authorised by cabinet members.

The plans have prompted a number of objections with concerns over the loss of a "well-used" tennis court.

However, the town council says the existing tennis court is dilapidated and potentially dangerous with the fencing damaged and the net in a poor state.

It says the proposed site is the most suitable area at the recreation ground for a skateboard park because of potential noise nuisance to neighbours.

The town council, which received planning permission for the skatepark in April, has questioned the validity of the online and paper petitions submitted against the CAT plans, saying it was concerned many signatures were from people not living in Pencoed or indeed the county borough.

Councillors will decide whether the council should complete the leasehold transfer at a cabinet meeting on Tuesday, September 18.

BCBC has allocated £20,000 to the total development cost of the skateboard park.

Liz Bradfield
Local democracy reporter

It's a stretch for hospital staff

TWELVE staff from the emergency department at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend put their talents to the test at this year's Exercise Medical Stretch.

The challenge, run by 203 (Welsh) Field Hospital, brings together teams from all over NHS Wales for a series of tasks and challenges.

The weekend aims to give the participants a chance to develop a range of skills, including teamwork, problem solving and leadership, which they can bring into the workplace.Several members of ABM University Health Board are members of the 203, and served on multiple tours of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Nurse Mark Cadman said: "Although tough, the personal accomplishments made the weekend worthwhile."

The activities were based around problem solving strategies and some physical activities including an assault course on the final day.The team also had to walk an average of 2km between the different activities.

"We were visited on the exercise out by our chief executive Tracy Myhill acting in her role as honorary colonel for 203," he added.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

Which is the tallest of them all?

ON reading The GEM on September 13 regarding the tallest sunflower, my great-grandson Harvey-Lee Fenton who is seven years old and attends Tondu Primary, grew four sunflowers.

They range from (the smallest) 10' 5" to (the tallest) 13' 10" (*GEM: At the time of going to press*.). **Collin Roberts, Coytrahen.**

Call made to tackle 'overflowing' litter bin problem

BRIDGEND County Borough Council's two refuse bag limit for residents is – according to some councillors – leaving public litter bins overflowing, and they say people are taking their household rubbish into the street and parks to get rid of it.

The new system of rubbish collection, which came into force in June 2017 aimed to increase recycling rates and reduce the amount of rubbish taken to landfill sites.

The results show a huge success, with the county going from being the second worst in Wales for recycling to being the second best in under a year.

However, alongside new restrictions on household waste, there has been a rise in the amount of rubbish dumped in public bins instead.

Speaking at a council meeting scrutinising the effect of the waste contract that Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) has with private firm Kier, Llangeinor ward councillor Roz Stirman said: "I'm concerned that because our residents can only use two blue bin bags every fortnight what they're actually doing is filling up all the litter bins on the lamp-posts, in the parks and everywhere else.

"How do we stop this?"

The scrutiny committee chairman and Brackla ward councillor John Spanswick said: "I see it day in and day out with litter bins jam-packed in the streets and rubbish bagged up under them."

And Nottage ward councillor Norah Clarke said in Porthcawl there were also issues, particularly with the bins on Nottage Green, which is owned by the town council.

She said: "The bins there are becoming full of household waste which obviously Porthcawl Town Council is having to empty.

"We have noted that people stop in their cars at a public bin and empty not only what they've got in their car but household waste as well.

"It's happening right across the county."

Council officers urged people to report the problems, saying enforcement teams were trying to identify the culprits and hand out fines.

The head of neighbourhood services, Zak Shell, said: "We will look to take action with enforcement teams where we can.

"In Maesteg last week a number of bags were found fly-tipped and we managed to find a number of different addresses where enforcement action has been taken.

"It is important we tackle this wherever we can and whenever we see it."

He added: "The positive aspect is that we haven't switched from being one of the worst recyclers in Wales to being one of the very best recyclers in Wales without, by and large, the vast majority of the public complying with the rules and actually switching their behaviour and recycling as we expect and want.

"There are instances where certain members of the public will try and find a way around the rules but it is fortunately the small minority, otherwise we wouldn't see the change in recycling rates that we have."

The overview and scrutiny committee meeting took place on Monday, September 17.

Liz Bradfield
Local democracy reporter

Guild members celebrate harvest

AT the last meeting of Porthcawl Townswomen's Guild, after the conclusion of business, they celebrated harvest.

Several members provided entertainment with readings and songs.

The committee have been busy organising the year ahead; on November 30, the Christmas Fayre takes place at Trinity Church Hall in aid of Porthcawl First Responders, who gave a presentation earlier in the year.

The meeting next month on October 10 is at 2pm in All Saints Church Hall, when there will be a craft afternoon arranged by Freda Rodger and her craft group; all welcome.

DT

The Bridgend Sports RFC mini and junior round-up

BRIDGEND SPORTS RFC mini and junior teams were all in action again last Sunday and while positive results are always good for motivation, participation is the watchword and with almost all sides in action again this week, the club continues to build on success with performance measured by the number of players taking the field each week.

If participation is the watchword, inclusion is the action as all players thrive on game time each week.

The round up of the action for each team starts with the under-7s who ended up in a round robin to assist Cambrian Welfare who came in search of a fixture and together with Maesteg Quins both teams were happy to accommodate the Rhondda side.

Once the games started the competitive spirit of all sides kicked in and the outcome of all games was only separated by one try.

There was some great running rugby from all the sides. Sports Dion Williams managed to score three tries in both games and then further tries from Jesse Jones, Cian Elward, Isaac Davies and Riley Lewis. Thomas Barnard enjoyed a great debut for the Sports. The man of the match though went to Isaac Davies for his four tries and relentless tagging. The Sports edged both games: Bridgend Sports 7, Cambrian 6; Bridgend Sports 8, Maesteg 7.

It was a wet and windy encounter at Pany Park, Tondu, where Tondu under-8s hosted Bridgend Sports and Maesteg Celtic. It was a rugby festival as seven games were played by the clubs.

All Sports players handled the ball to produce some lovely running rugby. The Sports put an impressive showing this week scoring 61 tries and taking an impressive 103 tags in defence.

The Sports try scorers were: Archie Hall (10), Aled Rees (nine), Oscare Gee (eight), Ellis Kendall (six), Gethin Roberts (five), Rhydian Cronin (five), Ollie Balmer (four), Charlie Hearing (four), Leo D'Adamo (four), Aaron Eynon (two), Matthew Griffiths (two), Holly Eynon, Tomos Richards and Sam Boughton.

The overall results were: Bridgend Sports Red 9, Tondu 6; Bridgend Sports Blue 11, Tondu 11; Bridgend Sports Red 6, Tondu 4; Bridgend Sports Blue 11, Maesteg Celtic 14; Bridgend Sports Red 6, Tondu 3; Bridgend Sports Blue 10, Tondu 7; Bridgend Sports Red 8, Maesteg Celtic 8.

It was a very close affair for the under-9s who hosted Pyle at the Bandstand Field. Only one try separated the two teams as the Sports emerged with the spoils with the final score Bridgend Sports 50, Pyle 45.

There was a further improvement in the team's tackling and teamwork again this week as the side got a well-earned reward.

They showed great sportsmanship by loaning some players to Pyle and they added to the occasion by scoring for the away side!

The Sports try scorers were Max Hearing, Dan Perriman (four), Rhys Evans, Thomas Roberts (two), Louis Payne and Gethin Jones. Sam Heycock was star player of the week and Kayden Jones was tackler of the week.

There is no stopping the under-10s this season - they welcomed a big Taibach side to the Bandstand. After a slow start where the large Taibach ball carriers had them on the back foot a little, the team found their stride and scored a couple of quick tries thanks to some good handling, running and support play.

All 16 players had game time in the first half, as the side crossed the try line a further four times with only two tries conceded to lead 30-10 at half-time

The under-10s in action.

Action from the under-12s.

The second half was a much closer affair with again some good ball handling and committed tackling from both sides as they produced three tries each making the final score 45-25 to the Sports for the side to maintain their unbeaten start to the season.

There were many good performances, however the outstanding team players of the week award went to the Coulthard twins, Hari and Siôn, who both showed great support play, tackled well and got their hands on the ball making good yards on a regular basis.

Sports try scorers were Noah Roberts (three), Leo Giraud (two), Osian Stephens (two), Jayden Walters and Gethin Evans.

The under-11s hosted Pyle. It was good to see the Sports score a couple of tries by passing the ball along the line. The home side proved too strong for the visitors in the first half who had played well in phases.

Sports try scores were Finley Goodwin (two), Charlie Paget, Chloe Roblin, Gabrial Burroughs, Joe Perriman and Matthew Oglesbee. Charlie Paget converted one and Daniel May converted three.

The second game proved to be a much closer game as the players were swapped around. Pyle took a two try lead before the Sports hit back with four tries through Gabrial Burroughs, Matthew Mordecai, Joe Perriman and Charlie Paget. Charley Paget also added the conversions and he justifiably earned star player of the week for his all round performance.

The under-12s also maintained their positive start to the season as they travelled to Glyncorrwg to play a combined Nantyffyllon/Glyncorrwg side, in true autumn weather.

The Sports scored five unanswered tries, the first by Dom Hurley, followed by one from Rhys Anthony and then two by Ben Evans and one from Tom Bimson. Jack Sperduty converted two.

The final score was Bridgend Sports 33, Nantyffyllon/Glyncorrwg 0.

The under-13s kept up the good results as they defeated Llantwit Major at home. Although, the Llantwit Major squad was depleted by illness, the Sports wanted to support the wider ethos of the game, and the home team were very generous with the sharing of resources; they were also very focused with the rugby when the game kicked off.

They were able to secure possession and then attack with a mixture of direct running and subtle movement of the ball to the wings. Llantwit Major showed great spirit as they kept taking a positive approach but they could not match a Sports side who scored tries through Callum Jones, Chloe Gant, Cian John, Conor Jones, Efan Dyer, Iestyn John, Jodie Keane, Molly Prance and Thomas Coles. Ieuan Pilliner and Cian John slotted over four conversions.

The under-15s played their first Ospreys Cup game away in a wet and windy Bryncoch. With a few players unavailable, the Sports put in a spirited performance and were unfortunate to go in 0-5 at half-time with some strong counter-rucking.

A lack of focus in the first 10 minutes of the second half put the Sports on the back foot and despite a well-worked try from Jack Thomas they were unable to make the breakthrough they needed as Bryncoch emerged victors 20-5. The Sports man of the match was Joe Ezard.

SP

Connor's long trip to Scotland pays off

BRIDGEND'S Connor Brace chalked-up his first winner in Scotland recently when landing the Prestige Venues And Events Handicap Chase at Perth on the joint top-weighted course and distance winner Mighty Leader for trainer Fergel O' Brien, who trains in Gloucestershire.

Mighty Leader was an 8-1chance and won by three-and-a-half lengths from Forth Bridge ridden by Jonathan Burke.

Connor, who was 17 in July, was just 11 when he won his first pony race and he went on to ride a further 47 winners which he says stood him in good stead for point-to-pointing and

racing under Rules.

Connor, who took the National Novice Riders' Championship and several other awards, is the grandson of David Brace OBE of the Dunraven Stud at Pyle near Bridgend, who is the leading trainer of point-to-pointers.

Earlier this year, he was awarded the John Ayres Special Recognition Award for his outstanding contribution to point-to-point racing and charity.

BRIAN LEE

The under-7s welcome Bridgend Sports 1st XV and Bridgend Athletic 2nd XV on to the field.

Bridgend Athletic RFC mini and junior news

ANOTHER good mini and junior weekend for Bridgend Athletic RFC with the minis embracing the spirit of the game by loaning players to opposition so the maximum players could get a game of rugby.

The under-7s played a curtain raiser against Bridgend Sports before Bridgend Sports first XV match against Bridgend Athletic second XV in the National Bowl Cup Competition on Saturday.

The Athletic youngsters fared better than their senior counterparts with a resounding 10-3 victory.

They then welcomed both Llantrisant and Cambrian to Newbridge Fields on Sunday and fielded two teams the Greens and Golds.

It was the Athletic youngsters who were once again triumphant, outscoring all their opponents on the day.

After two weeks on the road, the under-8s played host to Llantrisant.

With a very large Athletic squad the coaches agreed some Athletic boys would join the Llantrisant ranks so all boys could get meaningful game time and each side fielded two teams.

In total, four matches were played with the Athletic running out worthy winners, coming out on top in all four games. A big thank you to the Athletic players who stepped up to join the Llantrisant ranks and the Llantrisant coaches and players for welcoming our boys into their fold.

The under-9s hosted Llantrisant & Cambrian Welfare. Due to the under-9s' large squad they were able to field two teams simultaneously.

The Golds were in a competitive game against Llantrisant who were very elusive with ball in hand and solid in defence. The Greens' game against Cambrian was abandoned just after half-time with the visiting team continuously halting the Athletic attack with illegal tackles.

This allowed the Athletic and Llantrisant who also had a large squad to play two games simultaneously against each other. Both clubs played some great rugby, but it was the Athletic who showed great composure to take the overall win.

The under-12s and under-11s played out a training match, while the under-13s travelled to Blackwood knowing that they would face a stiff test against a very good physical outfit.

The Athletic's cause was not helped with the dreaded sickness bug hitting several people overnight which resulted in only 13 players available on the day.

With the odds stacked against them, and with a few players already carrying injuries, the magnificent 13 players took to the pitch.

The first half was a tight affair with the Blackwood forwards carrying well and creating space in the corner for the full back to squeeze over on the 10 minute mark to make it 5-0.

The second half was very much the same as the first with the boys defending brilliantly with some fantastic forward carries which got them close to the line on several occasions, but not quite managing to get over the whitewash.

The team managed to limit Blackwood to a single score during the second period with the final score 12-0 to Blackwood.

Not one individual can be singled out from this display of guts and courage to play as one unit with everyone encouraging and supporting each other.

Sunday also saw the under-14s travelling up the M4 to play Cwmbran. This was a first meeting between the two sides, played on Cwmbran's Station Road pitch.

Bridgend kicked off playing down a considerable slope. They launched an attack and thought they had scored early on and the ball appeared to be grounded but was over-ruled by the referee. Cwmbran hit back and after some good forward play they crashed over for a converted try.

The Ath responded though, scoring three tries in quick succession to move into a 17 -7 lead. Despite the conditions the game was played at a high tempo, though handling errors were common with both sides.

The Athletic put themselves under pressure trying to force the game and kicking poorly. They were tackling well though and holding their own in the forwards against big opposition. Dominating the last five minutes of the half the Athletic came up with another score go into the interval 24-7 up.

Cwmbran were a different proposition as the second half got under way though. They started using their big forwards to run straight and were causing big problems for the Ath tacklers who had to work hard.

Two tries were scored in quick succession and the home side were starting to dominate. There was a need to break the stranglehold that Cwmbran were threatening and the Athletic managed to do that when a midfield break and excellent support play got them a fifth try against the run of play.

Cwmbran didn't relent though and ran hard at the Athletic and managed another two forward-orientated tries of their own as the game moved into the final five minutes, 31 points each. Cwmbran fancied the win at this stage but the Athletic held out under great pressure to share the spoils.

Tacklers were key on the day and in the outstanding Danny Wilson, Matt Pugh, Jacob Cox and Joe Reape the Ath had four of the best on the field.

Sunday saw the under-15s welcomed Cwmavon to Newbridge Fields for their first game of an Ospreys Cup campaign. With a good warm up the boys were chomping at the bit to take to the field.

Straight from kick off the Athletic boys started playing their high tempo game with the forwards running hard and winning the collision. The Athletic were in complete control scoring 33 first-half points.

With all seven replacements made at half-time it made no difference to the way the Athletic played and the points kept coming. Relentless in all aspects of play the Athletic had hit the 50-point mark automatically ending the game and now look forward to a place in the next round.

AB

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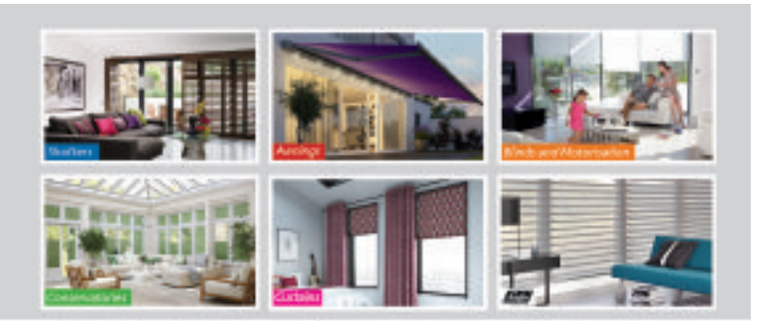

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Family Notices

Braithwaite
Ronald Matthew *(Ron)*

It is with great sadness we have to announce the passing of Ron, of Stacey Road, Dinas Powys, on 11th September 2018.

Loving husband of Sylvia, loved brother to Rita and a very dear brother in law to Rita and his many nieces and nephews.

Funeral will take place at Barry Crematorium on Monday 24th September at 10am.

Family flowers only requested – donations, if desired, to Cancer Research and can be made at the end of the service or c/o Green Willow Funerals.

All enquiries to Green Willow Funerals, 21a Station Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4DE. Tel: 029 2051 4627.

SKUSE
Oscar Geoffrey (Geoff)

On Friday, 14th September at Llandough Hospital. Beloved husband of Marguerite, devoted father of Robert and Joanne, father-in-law of Julian and Emma, dear gramps of Emily, Joshua, Bella and Toby, brother-in-law of Christopher and Rhuddian.

Funeral Service will be held at A.G. Adams funeral home, Barry on Wednesday 26th September, 2018 at 12 noon, thereafter to Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Crematorium, Barry for 1pm.

Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if desired, would be appreciated for Cancer Research Wales via a retiring collection at the church/crematorium.

All enquiries to A.G.Adams Funeral Home, Barry CF62 8NA. Tel 01446 735128.

SUTTON
Bryan Charles

Peacefully on 11th September 2018 at Marie Curie Hospice Penarth (Holme Tower), Bryan, aged 63 years, beloved husband of Gail, much loved Dad of Claire & Sam, Ian & Jenn and Lucy & James. Adored doode to Jack, twins Isobel & Tommy, Ava and Grace. A loved brother of Colin and son-in-law of Joyce and the late John, also sadly missed by sister-in-law Dawn.

Bryan will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G.Adams Funeralcare until the service in the chapel of rest on Tuesday 25th September at 11.45am, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for Marie Curie Hospice Penarth c/o the funeral director.

SALTER
Marjorie Joan

Peacefully on 9th September at Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, Marjorie, well known and committed church member of St Illtud's Church and beloved wife of the late Bert. Much loved mum of the late Peter and special daughter-in-law to Janet. A cherished granny and great granny of Louise and Dominick, Naomi and Steven, Jessica, Sophie and Rebecca.

Marjorie will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until her service at St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major on Tuesday, 25th September at 10.45am, followed by cremation at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family floral tributes only. Donations, if desired, may be sent to The Intensive Care Unit at The Princess Of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, CF31 1RQ in memory of Marjorie.

STURGESS
Anthony *(Tony)*

Peacefully at The Forge Care Centre on 30th August. Loving Dad to Paul, Tracy, David, Robert, Linda, Angela and Anthony.

Will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Resting at Park Funeral Directors until the service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium Port Road on Friday, 28th September at 2pm.

Family flowers only, donations, if desired, can be made at the service or sent to Alzheimer's Society.

HOARE
Donna Marie

Peacefully on 17th September surrounded by her loving children, Donna, aged 44 years, of Lougher Place, St Athan.

Loving mother of Michael, Rebecca, Ashley and John, mother-in-law to Nathan and a much-loved sister and aunt.

Donna will be sadly missed by all her family, friends and her dog, Brambles.

Funeral Wednesday 26th September. Service and cremation at Coychurch Crematorium at 1.15pm.

Family flowers only, donations in lieu may be made to Ty Hafan for the loving care given to Donna's son, John-John c/o Mel & Ron Watkins Funeral Services, 2 Hilda House, The Square, Pencoed, Bridgend CF35 5NP. Tel: 01656 860545.

WHITTY
Gerald Stephen *(Steve)*

Peacefully on 11th September 2018, at Llandough Hospital, in the presence of his loving family.

Steve, adored husband of Cherie, beloved father and grandfather.

Steve will be greatly missed by all his family and his many friends.

Resting at James Summers Funeralcare, Lavernock Road, Penarth CF64 5UP until the funeral service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Monday 1st October at 11am. No flowers by request.

Memorial Service

THOMAS
Norman Owen

A memorial service to celebrate the life of Norman Owen Thomas, who passed away aged 94 years, will be held at Nolton Church, Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend on Thursday 27th September 2018 at 11.30am.

He was a police officer in Bridgend, Laleston, Porthcawl and Cardiff and a past Master of Morgannwg Lodge.

He played rugby for Penycraig, Bridgend, Maesteg, Ogmore Vale, Glamorgan and Welsh Police.

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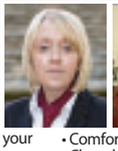

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In Memory

STOKES
Doris and Arthur
19th September 2017 • 9th October 2016

To hear your voices, to see your smiles, to sit and talk to you a while. To be together in the same old way, would be our dearest wish today.

Forever in our hearts and thoughts.
Lynne, June and families xx

IN MEMORY
LYE
Kay
23rd September 2012
My dearest Kay, you are always in our thoughts.
We love you and miss you.
Ron and family *xxx*

IN MEMORY
JAMES
Val
23rd September 2015
Always in our hearts and thoughts.
Dearly missed by husband Viv, children Martin, Gareth, Keeley, Steven, Viv and Mel, grandchildren and great grandchildren *xxx*

Public Notice

LICENSING ACT 2003
Section 17 (5)
Notice of Application for a Premises Licence
NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT
An application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a **PREMISES LICENCE**
To permit licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on, on or from the premises shown below. Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of: Monday to Thursday 0830 to 1700 hours and Friday 0830 to 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: www.bridgend.gov.uk.
Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below:
Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.
NAME OF APPLICANT:
Halo Leisure
NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PREMISES: **Bridgend Life Centre, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4AH.**
STATEMENT OF INTENDED LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES: **Supply of alcohol - Monday-Wednesday 10.00-23.00; Thursday-Sunday 10.00-02.00.**
Regulated entertainment Monday-Sunday 10.00-24.00
DATE BY WHICH REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE MADE: **4th October 2018.** This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely BCBC, for 28 consecutive days.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000.

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Top performance by the Vale Surf Lifesaving Club

VALE Surf Lifesaving Club's first season on the beach is drawing to a close with a very impressive fourth place overall at the Welsh Ocean Championships held on September 1-2 at Porthcawl.

Despite a small team and up against larger, more established clubs, Vale SLSC posted superb results coming second in the ski aggregate and third in the board aggregate, and second in the Open competition.

The team consisted of Masters, Open and Youth competitors with everyone putting in excellent individual performances and showing great team spirit.

As well as Vale regulars Sarah, Simon, Steve, Dom and Nia the club was proud to be represented by the following new Masters all competing in their first competition - Darren Baker, Sue Baker, Claire Connolly, Hugh Connolly, Dave Hopkin, Colin Peterson and Alison Woolcock.

The Masters medal winners were as follows: gold - Simon Parker & Steve Baker double ski, silver - Steve Baker 1km run, Simon Parker Ski and Oceanman, bronze - Steve Baker Beach Flags and Ski, Simon Parker - Board and 1km Run, Sarah Baker and Nia Hopkin - Double Ski, Sarah Baker - Oceanwoman and Ski.

Sue Baker, competing in her first Masters competition, won a very impressive bronze medal in the 1km run and afterwards paid tribute to fellow Masters competitor Anthony Aylen from Rest Bay Club, who ran alongside her offering encouragement and support to get her through to the finish line.

The Open team consisting of Kelsea Peterson, Ellie Peterson, Brooke Peterson and Dafydd Nicholls

produced brilliant results to finish second overall in their category.

Kelsea won gold in the Beach Flag competition with Ellie winning silver and Brooke winning bronze. Kelsea, Ellie and Brooke also teamed up to win silver in the Board Relay, silver in the Ski Relay and silver in the Beach Relay.

Brooke and Daf also won silver medals in the Beach Sprint competition with Kelsea winning a silver in Board and Ellie in Ski.

Bronze medals were won by Brooke in Ski, Kelsea in 1km run, Kelsea and Ellie in Tube Rescue, Kelsea and Ellie in Double Ski, Kelsea, Ellie and Brooke in Taplin Relay.

Declan Ewington moved up an age group to join Daf in winning a bronze medal in the Tube Rescue. Dominic Lee also moved up from Masters to join Daf and Declan in the relays.

The Youth team consisting of Abigail Baker, Alice Connolly, Ben Ewington, Declan Ewington, Tesni Gardiner, Louie Gwatkin, Reuben Hopkin, Emily Parker and Brooke Peterson finished in a very impressive fourth place in their category despite being one of the smallest teams in their section.

Whether medal-winning or not, outstanding performances were posted across the board with the Youth team members displaying great camaraderie over the two days of competition.

Gold medal winning performances were as follows :- Reuben Hopkin - under-15 Board Race, under-15 Ski, under-15 Oceanman, under-15 Beach Flags; Reuben Hopkin and Ben Ewington - Board Rescue, Tube Rescue, Double Ski.

In the under-17 ski race Declan Ewington put in an amazing performance to win the individual Ski race despite having just returned to competition after a long break due to illness.

He also teamed up with Reuben and Ben to win the Ski Relay.

Silver medals were won by: Abigail Baker under-15 Ski, Ben Ewington under-15 Ski and under-15 Oceanman, Reuben Hopkin under-15 Beach Sprint and 1km Run, Brooke Peterson under-17 Beach Flags and Oceanwoman.

Tesni Gardiner and Brooke won silver in the under-17 Double Ski, Reuben, Ben and Declan won silver in the Taplin Relay with Alice Connolly, Emily Parker, Ben and Reuben winning silver in the under-15 Beach Relay.

Youth team bronze medals were won by: Reuben under-15 Swim, Alice under-15 Beach Sprint and under-15 Beach Flags, Brooke under-15 1km Run, Alice and Emily under-15 Board Rescue, Abigail Baker and Emily Parker under-15 Tube Rescue, Board Relay - Declan, Ben, Reuben and Ski Relay - Alice, Emily, Tesni.

Thanks to Gemma and Steph for their fantastic catering throughout the event and to the coaches for all the hard work put in during the winter months to produce these results.

Finally, a huge well done to each and every member of the team not only for their outstanding performances but for their team spirit, sportsmanship and for representing their club so positively over the two days of competition.

JP

Millwood bowlers' weekend of finals

LAST weekend saw the finals of the mens and womens sections take place at Millwood Bowls Club.

With a number of players in more than one final the organisers are to be congratulated on arranging a fair running order for all finalists

The finals were played in a good competitive spirit to a high standard and it is fair to say all players knew they had been in a game.

The finalists were well-supported by members, families and friends, and after the trophy presentations at the conclusion of the matches every one sat down to a fish and chip supper and refreshments in the clubhouse late into the night, bringing the curtain down on another season.

List of winners and runners-up (winners followed by runners-up:

Mens champion: Nigel Tutton, Alan Anniss; Men's novice: David Lewis, Robert Browne; men's triples: Alan Evans, Mickey Lucas, Alan Bickley; Kelvin Lewys, Robert Browne, David Lougher; men's handicap: Mickey Lucas; Alan Anniss; men's two-wood singles: Nigel Tutton, Mickey Lucas; men's two-wood pairs: Arthur Norris, Brian Crockford; Mickey Lucas, David Lougher; men's pairs: David Woodfin and Robert Browne; Alan Bumford and Alan Bickley; ladies champion: Christine Sewell; Jeanette Phipps; ladies pairs: Bonny Paige and Carol Norman; Sandra Jodrell and Christine Sewell; ladies triples: Sandra Jodrell, June Davies, Jane Selley; Carol Norman, Bonny Paige, Ann Davies.

BH

Porthcawl RFC make it three wins from three

PORTHCAWL RFC went back on the road and comfortably recorded their third win from three starts against a very determined Nantymoel outfit, to be nicely placed in third position in the league.

The match proceeded to become a game of two definite halves but it didn't appear that way early on as the Seaweeds racked up 19 unanswered points in just 10 opening minutes.

In a determined plan to move the ball from almost any playable position, Porthcawl got off to a flyer with the pack, particularly prop Jamie Uren, making hard yards into the heart of the Nanty defence.

Wing Jordan Skidmore got matters moving with a fine break, handing on to the irrepressible Owen Thomas at flanker whose 30-metre surge allowed the ball to go wide.

Centre Aled Davies latched on to the final pass to cross for a try out wide and 0-5. Outside-half Ben Thomas' conversion just wide.

Thomas made up for this three minutes later, however, as his brilliant break through midfield and deft inside pass found scrum half Ben Roach, who cantered in under the posts, Thomas converting, making it 0-12.

Immediately from the kick-off, full-back Gareth Rees turned on the gas before kicking ahead over the cover defence and there was wing Jake Thomas grabbing his first try of the afternoon, and Thomas converting for 0-19 with just 10 breathless minutes gone on the clock.

Porthcawl kept up the incessant attacks despite best efforts of Nanty flanker Graham Morgan to stem the flow, aided and assisted by scrum half Connor Walker.

However, the Seaweeds extended their lead when following good yards by prop Tim Lunn, flanker Owen Thomas was driven over for the try from a lineout – but the referee awarded a penalty try, so seven points and 0-26.

When a mighty Porthcawl scrum and good work by Skidmore brought an unconverted second try for Jake Thomas, the game was effectively in the bag for Porthcawl at 0-33.

However Nanty's Lewis Carson nabbed a try back for 5-33 approaching half-time.

Porthcawl wing Jake Thomas was denied his hat-trick try after a fabulous length of the field move out of defence, the referee ruling the pass forward despite it looking fine.

The second half saw a real turnaround as the home side began with a greater purpose, driving Porthcawl back with some determined play.

Veteran Dai Stacey came off the bench to score an early try, converted by skipper Ryan Davies and 12-33.

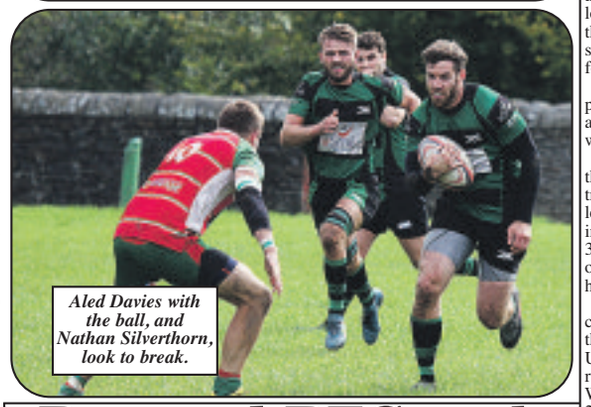
Porthcawl somehow contrived to sit back amid some committed play by Nantymoel and the momentum shifted hugely to the home side, with only the finishing touches deserting them as at least the Porthcawl defence stood up.

Gareth Rees brought cheers of relief from Porthcawl supporters as his corner try, converted brilliantly off touch by Ben Thomas, moved the score to 12-40, yet it was Nanty who had the final say as James nabbed another try to bring more respectability to the score at 19-40 at the final whistle.

Porthcawl await the arrival of unknown quantity Morriston, to South Road on Saturday and will be looking to home advantage to bring win number four.

PF

Ben Roach dives over for a try. ALL PICTURES BY TRACEY WILLIAMS.



Aled Davies with the ball, and Nathan Silverthorn, look to break.

Pencoed RFC grab tight away victory

It was a job well done for Pencoed RFC on Saturday as they defeated Morriston RFC away by 27 points to 26 in a titanic encounter, and JULIE HANCOCK was on hand to capture the action. ABOVE: Lloyd Bargery and Owain Clarke are in the thick of the action, while LEFT: Shane Izatt breaks a tackle.

Vale Cricket Club celebrate successful season for teams

LAST Friday, Vale Cricket Club celebrated the end of the season with a function at their clubhouse.

The first team finished fourth in their league for the second year running and the seconds enjoyed tremendous success in winning their league.

First XI captain JP Davies started proceedings by giving his report on the season, making firm points that the squad is a strong one and should look to improve upon their achievements this season in order to move forward.

JP then went about presenting the first team awards to the worthy winners.

James Snelson won the batsman of the year trophy, having hit 399 league runs in 11 innings, averaging 39.90 with a high score of 84 and scoring four half centuries.

Other players contributed well with the bat, notably Alex Upham (432 runs –28.80), Harry Withers (261 runs – 26.10), Dean Oram (238 runs – 29.75) and Brendan McCay (230 runs – 28.75).

Vale veteran Darren Upham picked up the first team bowlers trophy, having taken 29 wickets for 396 runs an economy rate of 2.74 and an average of 13.66. Well done Darren on those fantastic statistics -

Wales over-50s are counting down the days until your 50th on their wallchart!

Darren's son Alex was also in the wickets (28-557-19.89). Other contributions were made by Sean Rowland (12-281-23.42) and JP Davies (11-270-24.55).

Alex Upham collected the fielder of the year award having taken nine catches. Alex's natural ability and practice makes him one of the best fielders in the league and his assurance under the high ball, speed and ability to stop a travelling ball is excellent.

Other contributions were made by JP Davies who took six catches, James Snelson and Sean Rowland who took five catches each.

Wicket keeper Harry Withers picked up 15 catches and two stumpings in support of the bowlers' efforts. Fellow keeper Ash Taylor took four catches and claimed four stumpings when stepping up for the first team as well.

Vale's table-topping second team report was read by vice-captain Mark Francis, who filled the gap left by second team captain Matthew Thomas, who is rumoured to still be celebrating his team's season somewhere in Dublin.

The captain's report resembled Leo Tolstoy's epic War and Peace and was delivered word for word as promised by Mark with some anecdotes.

Mathew Thomas thanked his players for their overwhelming support, commitment, pride and effort as well as taking time to thank the tremendous in-house ground team for whom there are not enough superlatives.

The second team batsman of the year was awarded to the captain Matthew Thomas who hit a colossal 1,037 runs in 15 innings, averaging 103.70 with a high score of 164no including four centuries and six half centuries. Well done skipper!

Mark Francis (553 runs – 50.27) and Gareth Kelland (285 runs – 57) also contributed well to the run factory.

Steve Hiles who represented both the first and second team equally, scored 332 runs averaging 36.89 with a high score of 126.

Tom Lazarus picked up the bowlers award for the seconds, taking 24 wickets, conceding 263 runs with an economy rate of 3.25 and averaging 10.96. Tom also picked up a season and personal best of 7-23 in the match against Machen.

Idris Merry (16–258), Greg Andrews (16–357) and Joseph Davies (11–217) all picked up wickets and bowled well.

Gethin Merry and Aaron Davies, who represented the first and second team, picked up 15 wickets each and showed tremendous courage and confidence in their ability to bowl well when stepping up to play for the firsts. Thank you and well done boys.

Tom Taylor also picked up a total of 12 wickets in his return to cricket this year as he represented both sides.

The second team fielder of the year was awarded to Ash Taylor. The wicket keeper has been in fine form in his return to cricket this year.

He is a constant competitor and entertainer in the field with his encouragement and comic timing.

Ash managed a grand total of 17 dismissals behind the stumps (eight for the first team and the rest for the seconds). The club is delighted to have you back Ash!

Other contributions in the field for the seconds came from Matthew Thomas (10), Mark Francis (seven), Greg Andrews and Tom Lazarus (six each).

Congratulations to the second team who are deservedly champions of their division.

Travelling away to Monmouth on the last day of the season needing five points to win the league was a tremendous effort and they managed this before tea!

The attitude and commitment shown by the players has been excellent and the atmosphere is simply second to none.

They have been superbly led by their captain Matthew Thomas, who has led by example with the bat and confidence on the field but has never been shy to gather opinions.

Well done to all that contributed to this very successful season.

Finally, the club would like to thank all captains; JP Davies (first team), Matthew Thomas (second team) and James Snelson (midweek) for their time, commitment and effort in leading their sides.

The club have also managed to field a third XI on some occasions this year and they have been led by Mark Stephens.

Thanks go to the ground staff, who between them stepped up to take control of the pitch and the surrounding area, and the many club officials who work tirelessly to ensure the club is run successfully both on and off the pitch, your work in invaluable.

Also, thanks to our many club sponsors who continue to support the club in achieving our vision.

A special thanks to Glyn, who co-ordinated the presentation evening and to the Hog Father for supplying us with a delicious hog roast.

Until next season..

HW

Players wanted for Tondu teams

TONDU RFC under-15s are looking for new players.

We currently have a small squad of about 16 available players, so whoever trains will get plenty of game time, and we only have five backs currently available.

If interested please contact Kev King on 07861 225468.

Also, Tondu Titans women's teams are now recruiting – all are welcome with no experience needed.

Training is Tuesday and Thursday, 6.45pm start at Pandy Park.

MIKE SULLY

Got a sports story, match report or item of interest? Then get in touch with us - email sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Llantwit Bowls club are up for the cup!

ON Saturday, Llantwit Major Bowls Club members played for the Bob Whitehead Cup.

This is a mixed triples competition with 36 members taking part. The earlier rounds were played over five ends, with the final over seven ends.

In a very close final, Les Fowler, Dilys Hurley and John Nixon triumphed over Derek Mutlow, Kay Johnes and John Crane.

Everyone had an enjoyable day with thanks to Marilyn Gomaa, the competition secretary, for a well-organised event.

NY

Bridge results

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for September 17:

1st Glyn Williams and Vida Halford 69.58%, 2nd Debbie and Simon Richards 66.82, 3rd Mike Best and Kevin Maddox 64.79.

LE

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17 67 BMW 230i M Sport 2dr convertible automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, 18"alloys, cruise, 2k, mineral white, full oyster leather **£26995**

16 16 AUDI S1 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty April 2019, Heated seats, 18"alloys, white, full leather **£17995**

15 15 RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2 SD4 Pure Tech 5dr 4WD (190bhp), sat nav, pan roof, 18"alloys, 35k, met grey, full leather **£20995**

15 15 LEXUS NX300h 2.5 Luxury (Convenience Pack) E-CVT 4WD 5dr, sat nav, cruise, blue, full leather **£19995**

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17 67 BMW 230i M Sport 2dr convertible automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, 18"alloys, cruise, 2k, mineral white, full oyster leather **£26995**

15 15 BMW 428i M Sport 2dr convertible automatic, 19"alloys, head-up display, reverse camera, 12k, black, full oyster leather **£24995**

16 16 BMW 420 D M Sport 2dr convertible automatic, BMW warranty Aug 2019, M Sports Plus pack, sat nav, rev camera, 19"alloys, 15k, black, full leather **£23995**

16 16 BMW 420 D Sport Convertible automatic, BMW warranty July 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 20k, black, full red leather **£21995**

15 65 BMW Z4 2.0 28I SDrive Roadster 2dr (245bhp), 19"alloys, sat nav, heated seats, white, full leather **£18995**

16 66 BMW 640 3.0 DM Sport Convertible Automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, 20"alloys, reverse assist camera, white, full leather **£33995**

16 66 DS DS3 CABRIO 1.6 BlueHDI Prestige Cabriolet 2dr, Citroen warranty Sep 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, black.....**£9995**

14 14 FIAT 500C 1.2 S 3dr, pdc, air-con, blue, half-leather **£6995**

15 65 MINI ROADSTER 1.6 S Convertible, 17"black alloys, heated seats, 19k, silver, half-leather....**£12995**

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17 67 BMW 225 XE PHEV Sport Active Tourer 5dr 4WD Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 4k, black.....**£22995**

15 65 BMW 330 DXDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic (258bhp), pro nav, 19"alloys, privacy glass, 25k, red, full leather **£19495**

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16 16 BMW 420 DXDRIVE M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr automatic, 19"alloys, widescreen sat nav, 23k, met grey, full leather.....**£22495**

14 64 BMW 430 3.0 DXDrive M Sport 2dr Automatic, sat nav, electric glass sunroof, 19"alloys, 39k, blue, full leather.....**£19995**

16 16 BMW 435 DXDrive M Sport 2dr, BMW warranty June 2019, sat nav, 19"alloys, 15k, grey, full leather **£25995**

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17 67 BMW X1 2.0DXDrive M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, heated seats, privacy glass, 11k, silver **£23495**

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16 16 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT 2.0 TD4 180 HSE Luxury 5dr Automatic, Land Rover warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, black, full leather **£30995**

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15 15 LEXUS NX300h 2.5 Luxury (Convenience Pack) E-CVT 4WD 5dr, sat nav, cruise, blue, full leather **£19995**

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15 65 MITUSBISHI OUTLANDER 2.0 PHEV GX3H+ 5dr automatic, Mitsubishi warranty Jan 2019, 18"alloys, heated seats, 20k, grey.....**£18495**

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17 67 ALFA ROMEO GIULIA 2.2 TD SUPER 4dr automatic, Alfa warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, 18"alloys, 2k, red, full leather **£22995**
15 15 AUDI A1 1.6 TDI SE 3dr, CD player, air-con, Alloys, DAB, silver **£9995**
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16 65 BMW 640 D M Sport Gran Coupe 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty March 2019, sat nav, 19"Alloys, black, full leather **£24995**
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16 16 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost 140 Zetec S Black Edition 3dr, Bluetooth, 17"alloys, 22k, black **£9495**
16 16 FORD FOCUS 1.5 ecoBOOST Titanium 5dr (150bhp), Ford warranty April 2019, sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, 11k, blue **£11995**
16 16 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Zetec S 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, 17"alloys, 24k, black **£10995**
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16 16 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Titanium Estate (X Pack) Ford warranty April 2019, 19"alloys, privacy glass, 19k, black, full leather....**£15995**
16 16 HONDA HR-V 1.6 I DTEC EX 5dr, Honda warranty August 2019, pan roof, sat nav, blue, full leather....**£16495**
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16 66 HYUNDAI i10 1.0 SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty July 2022, Bluetooth, Air-Con, Cruise, 4k, blue....**£6995**
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16 66 JEEP RENEGADE 1.4 Multiair Longitutde 5dr, Jeep warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 14k, black..**£11995**
16 16 JEEP RENEGADE 1.6 E-TORQ Dawn of Justice 5dr, Jeep warranty Aug 2019, sat nav, 14k, grey **£11995**
15 15 KIA CEED 1.6 CRDI 3 Estate, Kia warranty August 2022, sat nav, reverse camera, white....**£8995**
16 65 KIA CEED 1.4 SR7 Sportwagon Estate, Kia warranty Feb 2023, Bluetooth, pdc, 14k, black....**£9995**
16 66 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI 3 Estate DCT, sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, 13k, blue, half leather **£14995**
14 14 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI ISG 2 5dr, pan roof, cruise, Bluetooth, 44k, silver, half leather **£10795**
13 63 MAZDA 3 1.6 Tamura 5dr, 17"alloys, 15k, met grey..**£7495**
15 15 MAZDA 3 2.0 SE-L 5dr, Bluetooth, heated seats, 16k, white **£10495**
15 15 MAZDA 3 2.2 D Sport Nav 5dr, heated seats, sat nav, 18"alloys, black, full leather **£9995**
13 13 MERCEDES A180 CDI BlueEfficiency Sport 5dr, 18"alloys, Bluetooth, 41k, silver, half leather **£11495**
18 18 MERCEDES A180d AMG Line 5dr, Mercedes warranty July 2021, Night & Exclusive pack, sat nav, panoramic roof, 217 miles, white, full leather **£23995**
12 62 MERCEDES C220 CDI Bluefficiency AMG Sport 2dr Automatic, sat nav, 18"alloys, silver, half-leather **£10795**
16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 Sport Estate, Mercedes warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 12k, grey, half leather **£18995**
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17 17 MINI COOPER 2.0 SD 5dr Automatic, media pack (sat nav), chilli pack, 10k, thunder grey **£15995**
17 17 MINI CLUBMAN 1.5 COOPER 5dr, MINI warranty May 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, 8k, white **£14995**
12 12 MINI CLUBMAN 2.0 SD 5dr Estate, chilli pack, pan roof, heated seats, white, full leather **£7995**
17 67 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.2 DIG-T Acenta 5dr, Nissan warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, tech pack, red **£16495**
15 15 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI Tekna 5dr (130bhp) pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, white....**£12995**
15 15 PEUGEOT 208 1.0 VTI Active 3dr, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, 22k, grey **£5995**
16 16 PEUGEOT 208 1.6 BlueHDI GT Line 3dr, Peugeot warranty August 2019, Bluetooth, cruise, grey, half-leather **£9995**
12 62 RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2 ED4 Prestige 5dr, lux pack, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, privacy glass, pan roof, 19"Alloys, pDC front & rear, fuji white, full leather **£17995**
15 65 RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCI Energy Dynamique Medianav 5dr, sat nav, cruise, blue **£6995**
15 65 RENAULT TWINGO 1.0 SCe Play 5dr, Renault warranty Oct 2018, air-con, USB, 13k, blue....**£5995**
17 67 SEAT ATECA 1.6 TDI Ecomotive Technology SE 5dr, Seat warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 18"alloys, grey **£16995**
17 67 SEAT LEON 1.6 TDI SE Dynamic Technology Estate, Seat warranty Sep 2020, sat nav, 17"alloys, PDC, 7k, grey **£12995**
16 16 SKODA YETI OUTDOOR 2.0 TDI SCR SE L 5dr, Skoda warranty May 2019, 17"alloys, cruise, 9k, silver, full leather **£12495**
13 13 SUZUKI SWIFT 1.6 Sport SZ-R 3dr, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, privacy glass, black....**£6995**
16 16 SUZUKI VITARA 1.6 DDIS SZ5, Suzuki warranty Feb 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, pan roof, turquoise ..**£12495**
17 67 TOYOTA C-HR 1.8 Hybrid Excel 5dr Automatic, Toyota warranty Oct 2022, sat nav, reverse camera, 18"alloys, silver, half-leather **£21995**
15 15 VAUXHALL ASTRA GTC 1.6 CDTI Limited Edition 3dr, Panoramic roof, 20"alloys, 31k, white **£10795**
13 63 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI SRI Nav 5dr, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, grey **£6495**
16 16 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.6 CDTI ecoFLEX Design 5dr, Bluetooth, cruise, 28k, silver **£9495**
17 66 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.6 CDTI Design 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Feb 2020, cruise, Bluetooth, 22k, grey **£10995**
17 66 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI (170) EcoFlex SRI NAV Estate, Vauxhall warranty Jan 2020, sat nav, 17"alloys, blue **£11995**
15 15 VW BEETLE 2.0 TDI Design 3dr, Bluetooth, DAB, air-con, black **£9995**
16 66 VW GOLF 1.0 TSI Match Bluemotion Edition 5dr DSG, VW warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, heated seats, Bluetooth, cruise, silver **£14495**
14 14 VW GOLF 1.6 TDI Bluemotion Tech SE 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, DAB, blue **£8295**
16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GT 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, 23k, red....**£13995**
16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech GTD 3dr, VW warranty July 2019, sport & sound pack, 19"alloys, sat nav, 10k, white **£18995**
16 16 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 5dr, VW warranty June 2019, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, heated seats, black **£15995**
16 16 VW POLO 1.4 TSI ACT BlueGT 3dr, VW warranty May 2019, Bluetooth, Heated seats, 16k, white....**£12995**
15 15 VW PASSAT 2.0 TDI BlueMotionTech GT 4dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, heated seats, privacy glass, black **£13495**
16 66 VW SCIROCCO 2.0 TSI 80 Bluemotion Tech GT 3dr, VW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, 18"Alloys, PDC front & rear, grey, half-leather....**£16995**
16 16 VW SHARAN 2.0 TDI CR Bluemotion Tech 150 SE 5dr DSG Automatic (7-Seater), VW warranty June 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, grey **£17995**
15 64 VW TOURAN 1.6 TDI 105 Bluemotion Tech S 5dr automatic, (7-Seater), air-con, Aux, DAB, 32k, grey....**£11495**

16 16 DS DS3 1.6 BlueHDI Prestige 3dr, Citroen warranty Aug 2019, sat nav, cruise, red **£8995**

16 16 AUDI TT 2.0 TDI Ultra S-Line 3dr, Audi warranty August 2019, 19"alloys, cruise, white, half-leather **£19995**

16 16 BMW 220I M Sport Gran Tourer 5dr (7-Seater), BMW warranty May 2019, sat nav, 18"alloys, 31k, white **£16995**

15 15 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-Tec + 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, cruise, choice **£9495**

17 17 FORD FIESTA 1.0 ECOBoost 140 ST-Line Navigation 5dr, Ford warranty July 2020, 17"alloys, sat nav, 12k, choice **£11495**

16 66 BMW 420 I Luxury Gran Coupe 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, white, full leather **£21995**

15 65 MAZDA 6 2.2TD SE-L NAV 4dr, sat nav, cruise, privacy glass, Bluetooth, white **£8495**

15 15 BMW M5 4.4 4dr DCT Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, Harman Kardon, 20"alloys, 18k, grey, full leather **£35995**

15 65 AUDI A1 1.6 TDI S-Line 3dr S-Tronic, electric sunroof, Bluetooth, privacy glass, light & rain sensors, grey, half-leather **£14995**

15 65 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, Bluetooth, PDC, choice **£6295**

16 16 MAZDA 2 1.5 Sport Nav 5dr, Mazda warranty June 2019, sat anv, cruise, privacy glass, red **£9495**

14 14 AUDI A5 2.0 TDI S-Line Black Edition 2dr, Bang + Olufsen, 19"alloys, privacy glass, black, full leather **£16795**

15 15 AUDI A3 1.6 TDI Sport 2dr Convertible, sat nav, 17"alloys, black **£14295**

15 65 FIAT 500X 1.6 MultiJet Cross 5dr, 17"alloys, Bluetooth, privacy glass, red **£8495**

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2012 (12) Audi A4 Avant 3.0 TDI SE Quattro 5dr, silver, ONLY 48,700 MILES NAV B/T PDC, VK12HZD £13,990

2015 (15) Audi A5 1.8 TFSI Black Edition 2dr, blue, JUST 19,000 MLS FSH NAV XENON, MK15FMU £18,990

2012 (12) Audi TT 2.0 TDI Black Edition Quattro 3dr, JUST 41,000 MLS FSH NAVIGATION, VE12MVL £12,990

2011 (11) BMW 1 Series 2.0 118d Sport 2dr, white, JUST 63,000 ML FSH HTD LEATHER, VE12MVL £8,790

2015 (65) BMW 1 Series 2.0 120d M Sport Sports Hatch (s/s) 5dr, silver, ONLY 22,000 MLS FSH NAV PHONE, VO65ZGS £14,690

2013 (13) BMW 3 Series 2.0 320d BluePerformance SE Touring (s/s) 5dr, red, 68.9 MPG 17"ALLOYS B/T CRUISE, YS13TNJ £9,490

2008 (57) BMW 3 Series 2.0 320d M Sport 4dr, grey, EXCELLENT CONDITION PDC FSH, YL57CWP £5,790

2016 (16) BMW 3 Series 2.0 330e M Sport (s/s) 4dr, white, 20,000 miles, 'NAVIGATION HEADSUP DISPLAY', KF16VZZ £20,445

2015 (15) BMW 4 Series Gran Coupe 3.0 430d M Sport Gran Coupe xDrive 5dr, black, JUST 1 OWNER FSH NAV XENON PDC, HT15OAX £18,490

2012 (62) BMW 5 Series 2.0 520d EfficientDynamics 4dr, black, 1 PREV OWNER PRO NAV LTHR B-T, OE62DZJ £8,990

2010 (59) BMW 5 Series 2.0 520d SE Business Edition Touring 5dr, black, BMW HISTORY NAVIGATN 19" B/T, VA59KFR £7,990

2014 (14) BMW M5 4.4 M DCT 4dr, blue, ONLY 36,000 FBMWSH MAJOR SPEC, LC14FVK £31,990

2015 (15) BMW X3 2.0 20d M Sport xDrive 5dr, black, JUST 1 OWNER FSH 59,000 ML NAV, LP15CZG £19,490

2014 (64) Fiat 500 1.2 Pop (s/s) 3dr, white, 1 OWNER JUST 37,000 MLS FSH, NJ64GYP £4,690

2014 (64) Ford Transit Custom 2.2 TDCi 290 L2H1 Panel Van 5dr, white, JUST 1 OWNER 80,000 MLS FSH, BX64YMS . . .£8,490 +VAT

2010 (10) Honda Civic 2.2 i-CDTi Type S GT-T 3dr, black, 79,000 MLS FSH NAV 18" PHONE, EF10RYP £5,990

2010 (10) Honda Civic 2.2 i-CDTi Type S GT-T 3dr, black, 79,000 MLS FSH NAV 18" PHONE, EF10RYP £5,990

2016 (16) Jaguar XE 2.0 TD Prestige 4dr, blue, 25,000 MLS FSH NAV LTHR DAB, EF10RYP £16,990

2016 (16) KIA Cee'D 1.6 CRDi 1 (s/s) 5dr, white, JUST 21,000 MLS 1 OWNER £0 TAX, FV16WTG £8,490

2006 (55) Land Rover Defender 110 2.5 TD5 XS 5dr, green, EXCEPTIONAL 9 SEATER WITH A/C, LY55MKU £18,990

2013 (13) Land Rover Discovery 4 3.0 SD V6 XS 4X4 5dr, green, JUST 1 OWNER FSH NAV LTHR, RE13YUL £18,945

2013 (63) Land Rover Freelander 2 2.2 SD4 Dynamic 4X4 5dr, red, 1 OWNER JUST 42,000 MLS FSH, DX63LNU £17,490

2014 (14) Land Rover Range Rover Evoque 2.2 SD4 Pure Tech AWD 5dr, black, 56,000 MLS 1 OWNER FSH NAVI, SB14NBM £18,990

2015 (65) MINI Countryman 2.0 TD Cooper SD 5dr, brown, 6,400 miles, LEATHER AUTO NAVIGATION, FD65UUC £14,790

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2016 (16) Mercedes-Benz C Class 2.0 C350e Sport Auto 5dr, black, JUST 1 OWNER 67,000 MILES NAV, SR16MYY £17,990

2015 (15) Volkswagen Touareg 3.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech V6 R-Line Tiptronic 4x4 (s/s) 5dr, grey, 1 OWNER FACELIFT 262 BHP FSH, CU15SFV £19,990

2015 (65) Skoda Fabia 1.2 TSI SE (s/s) 5dr, black, 1 OWNER FSH £20 TAX LOW INS, VX65WRR £5,745

2013 (63) MINI Hatch 2.0 Cooper SD (Sport Chili) 3dr, black, JUST 1 OWNER 50,000 MLS FSH, RO63KHR £8,490

2015 (65) Mazda2 1.5 SE-L Nav (s/s) 5dr, silver, NAVI B/TOOTH AUDIO TELEPHONE, LG65PTZ £7,490

2017 (66) Mercedes-Benz E Class 2.0 E220d AMG Line 9G-Tronic (s/s) 5dr, black, 1 OWNER NEW SHAPE 9,000 MLS, GV66WYK .£26,990

2016 (16) Nissan Qashqai 1.6 dCi N-TEC+ Xtronic CVT 5dr, black, JUST 14,000 MLS FSH CAM NAV, KY16FDA £15,990

2007 (57) Mercedes-Benz E Class 3.0 E280 CDI Avantgarde 7G-Tronic 4dr, silver, FSH NAVI LTHR, MK57YRX £6,290

2013 (63) Nissan Juke 1.6 16v Acenta (s/s) 5dr, black, 46,000 MLS FSH 1 PREV OWNER, VK63GFE £6,745

2014 (63) Mercedes-Benz E Class 3.0 E350 CDI BlueTEC AMG Sport 7G-Tronic Plus 4dr, silver, JUST 32,000 MLS FSH PAN/ROOF, NA63HGE £17,990

2014 (14) Volkswagen Touareg 3.0 TDI V6 R-Line Tiptronic 4x4 (s/s) 5dr, black, PANORAMIC ROOF ONE OWNER FSH, DA14CSZ £19,445

2014 (64) Vauxhall Astra Gtc 1.4 i Turbo 16v Sport (s/s) 3dr, white, 40,000 MILES FSH 1 PREV OWNER, LM64PFF £6,590

2014 (14) Vauxhall Mokka 1.4 16v Turbo SE (s/s) 5dr, JUST 25,000 ML FSH LEATHER DAB, BK64EXB £9,490

2013 (63) Volkswagen Amarok 2.0 BiTDI BlueMotion Tech Highline Per Pickup 4MOTION 4dr, 28k miles, (2.82t) AUTOMATIC FSH NAVI 'NO VAT', GJ63VAN £19,990

2015 (64) Mercedes-Benz C Class 2.1 C250 CDI BlueTEC AMG Line 7G-Tronic Plus (s/s) 4dr, white, JUST 1 OWNER FSH NAV BERMESTER, VA64OUM £16,990

2015 (65) Mercedes-Benz Glc Class 2.1 GLC220d SE 4MATIC (s/s) 5dr, blue, 17,000 20" AMG ALLOYS B/T, WG65GZS . . .£29,990

2007 (57) Mercedes-Benz E Class 3.0 E320 CDI Sport 7G-Tronic 5dr, black, NAVIGATION LEATHER SUNROOF PDC, WK57FWS .£6,490

2010 (10) Volkswagen Golf 1.6 TDI BlueMotion Tech 5dr 83.1 MPG £0 64,000 miles, black, FREE TAX LOW INS, SW10FVJ £5,990

2014 (63) Mercedes-Benz E Class 2.1 E250 CDI AMG Sport 7G-Tronic Plus 4dr, grey, 29,000 MLS FSH NAV AMG PACK, KW63NHX £15,745

2014 (14) Volkswagen Golf 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech GTD 5dr, grey, ONLY 24,000 MLS 1 OWNER FSH, YM14OVS £15,490

2013 (63) Volkswagen Tiguan 2.0 TDI BlueMotion Tech S 4WD (s/s) 5dr, white, JUST 1 PREV OWNER FSH 55.4 MPG, CV63DHE£8,990

2012 (12) Mercedes-Benz C Class 2.1 C250 CDI BlueEFFICIENCY Sport 7G-Tronic 4dr, black, JUST 45,000 MLS FSH WITH MERC, ML12DGO £11,790

2009 (59) Volkswagen Touareg 3.0 TDI V6 DPF Altitude 5dr, black, ONLY 61,000 MILES NAV PDC FSH, BF59ZVV £11,990

2015 (15) Mercedes-Benz Gla Class 2.1 GLA200 CDI AMG Line 5dr, black, 1 OWNER ONLY 30,000 MLS NAV, VK15URX . .£16,990

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63 SEAT Leon 1.2 TSi Technology SE 5-Dr
In red, 63,000 miles, sat nav, £30 road tax
£6,995

02 JAGUAR XK8 4.0 V8 Auto
In Aspen green with cream leather, 80,000 miles, 20" alloys
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65 TOYOTA Yaris 1.5 Sport Hybrid Auto
Blue, streak metallic, 77,000 miles, pan roof
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13 RENAULT CLIO 2.0 Renault Sport 3-Dr
In black, 38,000 mile hot hatch
£8,495

13 ASTON MARTIN DB9 6.0 V12 Auto In black, 20,000 miles, full Aston Martin service history **£74,995**

63 RANGE ROVER Evoque 2.2 TD4 Pure Tech Edition In orkney grey, 73,000 miles ..... **Reduced by £500 to £16,995**

64 MERCEDES E 220 AMG Sport Estate 2.2CDi Auto In silver, 41,000 miles, leather, sat nav etc ..**£16,995**

12 JAGUAR XF 2.2 diesel SE Auto metalic black, 40,000 miles, econimical luxury car at ..... **Reduced by £1000 to £11,995**

10 RANGE ROVER 3-6 TDV8 Vogue Auto Galway green/black leather .... **Reduced by £1000 to £11,995**

02 JAGUAR XK8 4.0V8 Auto In Aspen green with cream leather, 80,000 miles, 20" alloys.....**£9,995**

14 NISSAN Juke 1.6 N-TEC In met red, 28,000 miles, very nice example with sat-nav **£9,695**

65 TOYOTA Yaris 1.5 Sport Hybrid Automatic In blue streak metallic, 77,000 miles, pan-roof **£8,995**

15 VW Polo 1.4TDi SE 5-Dr In met-red, 25,000 miles, low running costs **£8,995**

14 NISSAN Qashqai 1.5 DCi 360º Edition In white, pan roof, sat nav, camera 360° view etc **£8,995**

08 MERCEDES SLK 200K Auto In black with black leather + air scarf + 18" alloys, 68,000 miles **£8,995**

61 NISSAN Qashqai 2.0 Acenta Automatic In met-burgundy, 38,000 miles **£8,995**

61 MINI Cooper 1.6 Convertible In baby blue with cream leather, 37,000 miles, host of extras ..**£8,495**

13 RENAULT Clio 2.0 Renault Sport 3-Dr In black, 38,000 mile hot hatch **£8,495**

61 HYUNDAI IX35 Style 2WD 1.7 CRDI in silver, 52,000 miles, two owners..... **Reduced to £7,995**

11 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCi Titanium in white, 74,000 miles, ... **Reduced to £7,995**

14 Honda Civic 1.6 Diesel, SE+, 5-Dr In silver 68,000 miles, free road tax **£7,995**

63 FORD Fiesta 1.0 Titanium 5-Dr In white, 29,000 miles, free road tax **£7,995**

64 MINI Cooper 1.5 Diesel In met blue/white roof, 81,000 miles, superb looking car at **£7,495**

13 FORD C-Max Zetec 1.0 Turbo In silver, 69,000 miles, low running costs **£7,495**

11 VW Golf 1.6TDi Match 5-Dr In met-red, 42,000 mile, very desirable at **£7,495**

63 SEAT Leon 1.2 TSi Technology SE 5-Dr In red, 63,000 miles, sat nav, £30 road tax..... **Reduced to £6,995**

65 RENAULT Twingo 900 DYnamique S 5-Dr In white, 20,000 mile sports interior **£6,995**

64 HONDA Jazz 1.3 EX 5-Dr In met-blue, 35,000 miles .....**Reduced by £1,000 to £6,995**

64 RENAULT Clio Expression Plus 1.2 In silver, 28,000 miles, 1 owner ..... **Reduced to £6,495**

14 ALFA ROMEO Mito, twin air, sportiva, 3Dr In metallic black, 45,000 miles, free road tax ..**£6,995**

63 VAUXHALL Astra 2.0 CDTi SRi 5-Dr In ice blue, 45,000 mile diesel hatch **£6,995**

63 NISSAN Juke 1.5 DCi Acenta Met-burgundy, 71,000 mile diesel, great value at **£6,995**

63 KIA Rio 2 1.2 3-Dr In silver, only 11,000 miles from new **£6,995**

12 AUDI A3 SE 3-Dr 1.6 TDi In silver, 53,000 miles, £20 road tax ..... **Reduced by £1,000 to £6,995**

12 VOLVO S80 DS 2.0D Lux SE 4-Dr In black with cream leather, 89,000 miles **£6,995**

10 TOYOTA Verso 1.6 TR In silver, 33,000 miles, 1 owner, ideal family SUV **£6,995**

58 FORD Focus 2.5 ST2 3-Dr In white, 78,000 mile hot hatch, great example at **£6,995**

14 RENAULT Megane 1.5 Diesel Coupe Dynamique TT Energy In black, 32,000 miles, free road tax....**£6,795**

13 VOLKSWAGEN High Up 1.0 5-Dr In white, 24,000 miles, £20 road tax, sat nav etc **£6,795**

61 MINI One 1.6 in red, 34,000 miles, very nice example at **£6,795**

64 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SE 5-Dr In met grey, 44,000 miles, a/c, etc **£6,495**

63 SKODA Roomster 1.2 TSi SE In silver, 32,000 miles, 1 owner **£6,495**

63 FORD Focus 1.6 TDCi Zetec 5-Dr In met grey, 72,000 miles, low running costs **£6,495**

13 VW Polo 1.4 Hatch 3-Dr In silver, 56,000 miles, alloys, a/c, etc **£6,495**

13 VAUXHALL Agilla 1.2 SE 5-Dr Automatic In black, 15,000 miles from new **£6,495**

64 SKODA CityGo Black Edition 5-Dr 22,000 miles, £20 road tax with sat nav etc **£5,995**

59 SKODA Octavia Laurin 2.0 TDi In silver, 57,000 miles, 1 owner, heated leather seats.....**£5,995**

14 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.4 SE 5-Dr In met-black, 43,000 miles, a/c, alloys etc **£5,995**

14 CITROEN C3 VTR+ 1.0 5-Dr In black, 28,00 miles, £20 road tax, low insurance **£5,995**

63 FIAT 500S 1.2 in midnight indigo, 32,000 miles, £30 road tax **£5,995**

62 TOYOTA Yaris TR 1.4 D-4D 3-Dr In black, 33,000 mile diesel with reversing camera **£5,995**

60 MERCEDES B160 Blue Efficiency Sport In black, 64,000 miles, nice example **£5,995**

16 SUZUKI Celerio 1.0 SZ2 5-Dr In white, 6,000 miles, "Free Road Tax" **£5,695**

15 MG3 Style VTi-Tech 1.5 In silver, 27,000 miles, alloys, bluetooth, DAB radio **£5,495**

62 CITROEN DS3 1.6 Style Black with white roof, 47,000 miles, 2 owners **£5,495**

61 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.7 Diesel CDTi SRi 5-Dr In red, 55,000 miles.....**£5,495**

60 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 5-Dr In hot magenta, 42,000 miles, parking sensors etc.....**£5,495**

61 SEAT Ibiza SE Copa 1.4 3-Dr In silver, 41,000 miles, 1 owner, a/c etc **Reduced by £300 to£4,995**

60 MAZDA 3TS 1.6 5-Dr In electric blue, 58,000 miles, 2 owners, very nice example at .....**Reduced by £300 to £4,995**

13 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 VVTi Fire 5-Dr In met-orange, 34,000 miles, free road tax **£4,995**

13 SKODA Fabia SE 1.2 5-Dr In silver, 36,000 miles, alloys, low insurance **£4,995**

62 FIAT Punto 1.4 M-Air Lounge 3-Dr In metallic blue, 48,000 miles, twin glass roof **£4,995**

11 PEUGEOT 508 Active 1.6 HDi In Alpine Blue, 53,000 miles.....**Reduced by £500 to £4,995**

10 HONDA Civic 1.8 Si 5-Dr In red, 91,000 miles, very nice throughout..... **£4,995**

10 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec (96) 5-Dr In metallic blue, 52,000 miles, a/c, alloys, etc **£4,995**

10 MINI Cooper S In electric blue with white roof etc, high spec hot hatch **£4,995**

60 FIAT 500 1.2 Sport, In electroclash grey, 41,000 miles, £30 road tax **£4,995**

09 FORD Fiesta 1.6 TDCi Zetec 5-Dr In met-silver, 42,000 miles, fantastic mpg.....**£4,795**

60 MINI Cooper 1.6 Diesel In black, fantastic mpg & free road tax.....**Excellent value £4,695**

12 HYUNDAI i10 Classic 1.2 In silver, 22,000 miles, 2 owners, a/c, etc **£4,495**

63 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 Ecoflex S 3-Dr In white, 26,000 miles, £30 road tax **£4,495**

61 RENAULT Megane 1.6 Dynamique 5-Dr In ice blue, 51,000 miles, sat nav etc **£4,495**

10 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Exclusive 5-Dr In met grey, 81,000 miles .....**Reduced to £3,995**

13 TOYOTA Aygo 1.0 Move VVTi 5-Dr In black, 54,000 miles, low insurance..... **£4,395**

62 HYUNDAI i10 Active 1.2 In silver, 55,000 miles, low insurance + road tax **£4,295**

61 FIAT 500 POP 1.2 In white, 50,000 miles, £30 road tax, low insurance..... **£4,295**

59 FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 5-Dr In met-blue, 70,000 miles with a/c..... **Reduced to £4,295**

59 FIAT 500 Lounge 1.2 In black, 38,000 miles, very nice example at **£4,295**

12 KIA Picanto 1.0 3-Dr In black, 47,000 miles, free road tax, low insurance **£3,995**

59 TOYOTA Auris 1.6TR 5-Dr In silver, 65,000 miles, 1 owner **£3,995**

09 MAZDA MX-5 1.8 Convertible In met-blue with a/c, leather + hard top, fantastic value **£3,995**

08 VW EOS 2.0 FSi In black, 83,000 miles 4-seater convertible **£3,695**

11 CITROEN C1 1.0 VT 3-Dr In red, 40,000 miles, low insurance **£3,295**

63 NISSAN Juke 1.5 DCi Acenta
In met-burgundy, 71,000 mile diesel, great value at
£6,995

64 HONDA Jazz 1.3 i-VTEC WEx
In electric blue, 35,000 miles, pan roof etc.
Reduced by £500 to £7,495

63 RANGE ROVER Evoque 2.2 TD4 Pure Tech Edition
Orkney grey, 73,000 miles
£17,495

15 VW Polo 1.4 TDi SE 5-Dr
In red, 25,000 miles, low running costs
£8,995

14 NISSAN Qashqai 1.5 DCi 360° Edition
Inwhite, pan roof, sat nav, camera 360° view etc
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The winning team.

Lovely day out for Cottrell Park ladies

ON Tuesday, September 11, a group of the ladies section from Cottrell Park Golf Club set off to Cumberwell Park in Bradford on Avon.

It was pouring with rain but as we reached the M4 the weather was glorious.

We had many laughs as one lady's trolley shot off across the course and another lady ran after it to catch it there were peels of laughter!

ABOVE LEFT: Judith Jessop and RIGHT: Margaret Rees.

The winning team with 80 points (best two scores out of four to count) were Chris Impey, Rose Dawson, Marian Hale and Maureen Bowen, with the second team - Lorraine Pointon Bell (lady captain), Margaret Rees, Carol Duncanson and Cheryl Hopkins - with 78 points

The individual Miss Button trophy was won by Margaret Rees with 35 points, with runner-up Judith Jessop.

There were two longest drives, won by Liz Overton and Rose Dawson, and nearest the pin was won by Patricia Roe.

Margaret Rees gave a vote of thanks to the lady captain for organising a wonderful day. **LPB**

Vale of Glamorgan Football League results round-up

BARRY Athletic continued their unbeaten run as they demolished Cowbridge Town 7-0.

Casey Thompson (2), Alex Lee, Josh Bell, Sean Andrews, Dylan Kinson and an own goal saw Athletic extend their lead at the top to five points, although they have played a game more than Rhoose.

Sully and Island Marine played out a 4-4 draw at Swanbridge while Barry Saints ran out 2-1 victors over Penarth Town at Cwrt Y Vil.

In Division One, Cadoxton Barry got back to winning ways after two defeats to see off Cardiff Airport 2-1 to go second. Cogan and Cadoxton Imps played out a 2-2 draw at The Rec.

In Division Two, St Athan B went second with a 6-1 victory over Barry Athletic B with Craig Howells scoring a hat-trick. Island Marine thumped Vale Madrid 5-0.

In the Barry Cup, there were three first round, almost provisional ties, to whittle the teams down to 16.

Holton Road thrashed SP Billy 6-0 to advance. Rhoose saw off Cwm Talwg 4-1 while Barry Vikings beat Barry Albion 6-2 to book places in the second round.

The tie of the second round looks certain to be Rhoose hosting Holton Road.

A full league programme returns this week. **HD**

Away day for St Mary's golfers

ST Mary's Golf Club's senior section's September Medal competition was rained off, but two days later 16 of their number enjoyed an away day at Bryn Meadows Golf Club.

The course was in very good condition with a good pace on the putting greens.

The order of the day was a Stableford competition with additional prizes for nearest the pin and for twos.

Section captain Hugh Williams continued his winning streak with back-to-back victories, settling for a par 36 points on this occasion.

However, this was somewhat less than his stellar 42 point total of the previous week.

Doug Mein was awarded second place after a count-back with Ainslie Adams, both players having carded 32 points.

Mein claimed the nearest to pin prizes on both the seventh and 13th holes and, with the only two of the day, Mein happily collected that prize also!

The remaining members of the section who hadn't travelled to Bryn Meadows played an individual Stableford competition on their home course.

Section scribe Norman Lloyd had a very forgettable front nine, but a birdie on the par five 11th and consecutive pars on the final four holes gave him a remarkable 24 points over the back nine, sufficient to leapfrog him into second place; Brian Peacock took the victory. **NL**

Seagulls benefit from the Farmers' visit over the Irish sea!

MEMBERS of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society recently returned from a visit to the Emerald Isles having played 54 holes at three different courses all attempting to win the David Evans (Agriculure) Ltd Trophy.

The Glamorgan Farmers ready to tee off their tour of Ireland.

After an early morning departure from the vale the sight of Penllyne club and trolley courier David Harris enjoying a hearty breakfast at a café in Mathry en route to Fishguard for the ferry to Rosslare set the scene for what proved a most enjoyable golfing break.

Based in Wexford on the recommendation of tour organiser Mike King the golf courses selected were within a short distance of the hotel allowing members ample time to give a major boost to the local economy by sampling the famous 'Black Stuff' associated with such adventures.

Day one of the tour gave members the opportunity of visiting Rosslare Golf Club a links course that over the years has hosted many prestigious tournaments.

Clive Thomas, with 33 stableford points, headed up the leaderboard after the first day followed by Bryan Owen, with 31 points, and Martyn Edwards 30 points.

Nearest the pins on the par-3 holes were Clive Thomas and Bryan Owen, who was successful on three of these holes.

Gareth Perkins hit the longest drive on the selected hole.

On day two a short journey to Enniscorthy provided members with the opportunity of playing another excellent parkland course and once again to receive a warm welcome from the hosting club.

The winner on day two was Chris Watson with 32 points followed by Martyn Edwards' 31 points and Gwyn Thomas who scored 28 points.

Nearest the pin on the par-3 holes was David Williams (2), Lyn Davies and Gareth Perkins with Tim Jarvis hitting the longest drive.

The final round of this 54-hole competition staged at Wexford Golf Club proved a tough challenge to many of the members who by now were showing distinct signs of fatigue.

Gareth Perkins, however, overcame any over indulgence to score 30 points, followed by Gwyn Thomas 29 and Mark Rees 28.

Nearest the pin on the par-3 holes were Lyn Davies, Clive Thomas, Bryan Owen (2) and also society captain Keith James who was delighted to collect a prize thought suitable for his wife Christine.

With all three rounds completed and scores checked by the very efficient competition secretary Tim Jarvis, Chris Watson was declared the overall winner with an aggregate score of 83 points followed by Martyn Edwards 82 points.

Gareth Perkins and Robbie Llewellyn both finished with 81 points. Julian Golunski correctly guessed 84 golf balls would remain across the Irish Sea resulting in 375 euros being collected and presented to representatives of the local Motor Neurone Disease Association who were staying at the same hotel for their annual conference.

Finally, as all tourists will know the time-honoured tradition of what 'goes on tour stays on tour' took on a new meaning for one society member who will obviously remain anonymous.

Having spent a considerable amount of time walking the streets and arcades of Wexford searching for the perfect present to take home the opportunity of purchasing a large portion of Irish smoked salmon and having it thermally sealed for the return journey was not to be missed. Unfortunately, leaving it in the refrigerator of the room after departing the hotel was not part of the plan but at least the seagulls around the refuse tip serving the area of Wexford are now enjoying a treat courtesy of one embarrassed Welshman!

Society members are now looking forward to their first ever visit to Garnant Golf Club scheduled for Thursday, September 27, to compete for the Arthur John Cup and one of the many prizes donated by generous sponsor Mr Dai John. **TMC**

Winning golfers Chris Watson, Martyn Edwards and Robbie Llewellyn with society captain Keith James and competition organiser Tim Jarvis.

When point-to-point came to the Vale - part five

ANOTHER extract from Brian Lee's long out of print book The Races Came Off.

In 1904, at the Aubrey Arms in Bonvilston, horses and riders were joined by motorists and cyclists from miles around, the occasion being the Glamorgan Hunt point-to-point fixture.

After the riders had been given their instructions they moved to Carmel Hill. The course around Pencarreg Farm was said to have been the hardest the riders had experienced since the races were first held.

For the second year running Tom Price's Black Fury won the heavyweight race after making all the running. Gerald Bruce's Darkie, a seven-year-old by Saucy Boy, captured the lightweight race.

The farmers' race, over a two mile course, was won by David Watts' aged Wynstay, ridden by Fred Williams, who was the official starter at Cardiff's Ely Racecourse.

Mr Williams was the father of Evan Williams, who was to win the Grand National on Royal Mail in 1937.

In 1905 Kirkland, trained at Lawrenny Park in Pembrokeshire, won the Grand National, and today remains Wales' only winner of the race.

The Glamorgan Hunt point-to-point this year were to have been held on March 16 which was a Thursday. But, owing to the grand jury of the Glamorgan Assizes having been summoned that day, the races were held over until Friday.

It was a sunny day and a large crowd gathered by a clump of trees on a mound about a quarter of a mile to the rear of St Nicholas Church near Bonvilston.

For the second year running, Gerald Bruce's Darkie won the lightweight race with the heavyweight race going to Major Edmunds' Caleb.

The Ystrad and Pentyrch enjoyed their most successful season in the history of the hunt. They held between 60 and 80 meets and killed 15 and a half braces of foxes. It was at the Ystrad and Pentyrch that William Tatem's Penylan Flyer won the heavyweight race.

Lord Glanely, as William Tatem was to become, was the leading owner on the Flat in 1919 and his Grand Parade won the Epsom Derby that year. Perhaps it was this success in point-to-point that made him turn his attention to racing.

He certainly spent huge sums of money into buying and breeding the best bloodstock available. Incidentally, Lord Glanely, who was killed during the last war in a bombing raid on Weston-super-Mare, is buried in Cathays Cemetery in Cardiff.

In the farmers' race, Mr D. Jones' Pentyrch Lad drew away from Lady Jane on the last bend to win easily. Later in the day a match between these two horses was arranged and it provided the same result.

**Brian Lee is the author of the best-selling Racing Rogues - The Scams, Scandals and Gambles of Horse Racing in Wales, published by St David's Press.*

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Hard-fought game sees Athletic take the spoils

Ben Howe oustrips the Treorchy defence to score. ALL PICTURES BY JOHN CANON.

Man of the match Ben Davies on the charge.

LAST season's third-placed Division 1 West central team, Bridgend Athletic, hosted last season third-placed counterparts in Division 1 East Central, Treorchy, on a fine afternoon at the Morganstone Brewery Field in this season's Division 1 East Central's third encounter of the season.

As anticipated it was a hard-fought close encounter with the Athletic winning by 13 points to 5. Despite a low-scoring game, it was played at great pace with well-organised defences on both sides hard to break down.

The referee, Mr Derek Randell, wearing GPS tracking, indicated he had run five miles during the game keeping up with play.

Treorchy showed their intentions from the start, playing an open expansive game and had the opportunity to take an early lead but put a penalty chance wide of the upright.

The Athletic then eased themselves back into the game and strong carrying by centres Josh Davies and Tom Jenkins and locks Jonathon Stoker and Ben Cording forced the Zebras to concede a penalty.

Outside half Jacob Lloyd carried on his fine kicking display at Gilfach Goch by confidently stroking home the penalty. Captain Ben Howe was replaced by Luke Williams with a blood injury but returned with a nasty eye injury taped up to drive on his side.

Despite some strong runs out wide by Treorchy captain, wing Curtis Hughes, and the Athletic back three of Dan Howells, Michael Powell and Joe Patterson, both try lines remained in tact with the Athletic leading 3-0 at half-time.

The Athletic scrum, as it did the previous week, started taking control as the game wore on with the three props used - Matthew Muir, Wayne Fooks and replacement Morgan Clemett, and hookers Lee Murphy and replacement Nathan Holman - showing good scrummaging technique, enabling scrum half Robin Davies to release Jacob Lloyd and the back division.

Josh Davies, at inside centre, was prominent carrying very strongly and setting up good ruck ball. Flanker Sean Williams was giving his side excellent top of the lineout ball as well as stealing some Treorchy throws.

One such steal five metres from his own try line prevented the Treorchy 8 setting up a potential five metre driving maul try. Athletic Number 8, and man of the match Ben Davies, was featuring prominently with many great carries.

A typical carry drove him to within 30 metres of the try line. The ever-supporting captain Ben Howe was in support to pick up at the ruck and leave several defenders in his wake before a neat sidestep took him inside the covering full back for his second try in successive games. Lloyd's conversion gave the Athletic a 13-0 lead after 55 minutes.

With lock Tom Davies and centre Sam Davies joining the action, the Athletic defence looked comfortable against a persistent Treorchy 15 but the Athletic also lacked the creativity to break down an equally well-organised defence.

With five minutes remaining Treorchy captain Curtis Hughes broke clear and sprinted into the Athletic 22 where Jacob Lloyd hauled him down, but strong support saw fellow wing Liam Lloyd force his way over from short range. The conversion was unsuccessful.

Treorchy pressed and were awarded a series of penalties. Unfortunately aiming for five metre line out drives, the kicker misjudged his length and all three kicks went into touch in goal, leaving his side without a potential losing bonus point.

This Saturday, September 22, the Athletic host last season's Silver Ball winners and league runners-up Glamorgan Wanderers again at the Morganstone Brewery Field.

The Wanderers with two former Athletic stalwarts - Tom Penry-Ellis and Athletic coach John Apsee's son No 8 Dan - in their ranks currently lead Division 1 East Central with three bonus point victories to date; a great challenge for the Athletic. **AB**

Ystalfera too strong for Tondu

THE first 20 minutes of this Division One Central West encounter looked as if it was going to be a memorable, free-scoring game between two sides who know each other well.

ABOVE: Full back Aled Jones scores, while BELOW: Captain Hywel Davies tries to break free. ALL PICTURES BY GARETH ANTHONY.

In the end it was a Ystalyfera side that turned the advantage of a dominant scrum into a feast of free-flowing running rugby to run in nine wonderful tries.

Their first try came from left wing Browdy Davies in the second minute, but their lead only lasted five minutes when full back Aled Jones finished off a great move to level things for the visitors.

Josh Tatchell added the conversion to give Tondu a narrow lead. Tatchell then landed a penalty to put Tondu 10-5 ahead, before the Ystalfera pack showed the first signs of what was to come with a pushover try for captain No 8 Steffan Jones, which was converted by full back Steffan Castle.

Credit to Tondu though, as they again responded immediately through wing Jack Riggs, finishing off another great attack, with Tatchell again adding the extra points to put Tondu into a 17-12 lead.

At this point the game changed when the Ystalfera pack took control and never looked back.

First came another Steffan Jones try, quickly followed by a wonderful try for right wing Luc Caines, both of which were converted by Castle to put Ystalyfera into a 26-17 half-time lead.

The second half was one-way traffic as the home backs treated their supporters to a display of sensational running rugby.

Browdy Davies was first to cross the line in a second period that would become one that Tondu will need to forget in a hurry; then came a clinical finish from outside half Gareth James.

Ystalfera, by this point, were almost scoring at will and scored a further three tries in the final 15 minutes through Jonathan Bayliss, Luc Caines and Zac Beynon, all converted by Steffan Castle.

There can be no doubt who were the best side on the day, as the scoreline clearly suggests, but Tondu will now need to put this game behind them and focus on the visit of Bonymaen to Pandy Park this Saturday, kick off 2.30pm.

MIKE SULLY

It's deja-vu for Athletic youth

IT was déjà vu for the Bridgend Athletic youth as, for the second week running, they scored four tries and 24 points in another bonus point Ospreys Youth East Division victory - this time the opposition, Nantymoel, scored seven points to the previous week's eight.

The first half saw the Athletic playing some delightful rugby with ball in hand and Athletic full back Sam Veasey crossed in the first minute.

Nantymoel responded with vigorous forward play. Good tackling, with Athletic flankers Josh Llewellyn and Sion Vigus prominent, kept them out.

Pressure was relieved with a try reminiscent of the famous Gareth Edwards Barbarian try.

It was started from five metres from their own line by Matthew Hobby feeding Levi Hallett who performed an outrageous sidestep and started handling by many players including centre Dan Osarigie before wing Cameron Lewis outstripped three defenders to cross in the corner. Hobby converted.

Another good handling move saw wing Owen Thomas cross for the third try. Another long range try, with Hallett making good ground, saw Cameron Lewis cross for his second try. Hobby's conversion gave the Athletic a 24-0 half-time lead.

The Athletic made several half-time changes. Whereas in the first half they were passing freely amongst themselves, in the second they forgot their discipline and players started playing for themselves not the team, resulting in a disjointed performance allowing Nantymoel back in the game with a consolation converted try.

Only a first half type display will succeed if they hope to come away with the points against another unbeaten league side, Porthcawl, when they visit the seasiders this Saturday, September 22.

AB

Bridge Club hold two special events

PORTHCAWL Bridge Club recently held two special calendar events, the Club Random Teams, in which pairs are initially moved randomly to establish their team-mates, and a heat of the Welsh Bridge Union Simultaneous Pairs, the proceeds from which go to the Wales Air Ambulance.

Pairs compete in the club with the results also scored centrally along with other club's results to give a national ranking.

The latest results are: September 1 – Random Teams: First John Beard, Tony Haworth, Trish Saunders, Roger Draper; runners-up Chris Rawlings, Teresa Griffiths, Pat Haworth, Terry Dolan.

September 6 – WBU Simultaneous Pairs, club results – First, Rob Charlesworth and John Beard; second, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams; national results – First, Julian Pottage and Tony Ratcliffe; second, Tony Haworth and Keith Davison.

September 8 – First, Tony Haworth and John Beard; second, Bill Turner and Dave Lea.

The club meets twice a week at the Awel-y-Mor centre on Thursdays from 6.45pm-9.45pm and on Saturdays from 3.15pm-6.15pm; visitors welcome at any time.

To contact the club, call secretary Trish on 01656 785794. **TH**

Bridgend Bridge Club results

THE latest results for Bridgend Bridge Club are as follows:

On Wednesday, September 12: First, David Birt and Mike Best; second, Glyn Williams and Irene Wickham; third, Tony Disley and Steve Burgoyne. The winners on handicap were Glyn Williams and Irene Wickham.

On Thursday, September 13: First, Dee Finch and Leila O'Hagan; second, Chris Rawlings and Joan Ralph; third, Gareth Jenkins and Mike Williams. The winners on handicap were Andy Collins and Christine Yeman.

On Friday, September 14: Equal first, Tony Disley and Jenny Vaughan, and Vida Halford and Glyn Williams; third, Andy Robertshaw and Emer Disley. The winners on handicap were Irene Thomas and Debbie Lea.

Regular club nights take place on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall. Play is scheduled to start at 7pm, to enable a prompt start, it helps if players arrive at least 10 minutes early.

On Thursday afternoons at 2pm, again at Nolton Church Hall, there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding.

All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

On Thursdays there is a session starting at 1pm on slightly advanced techniques of bidding and play.

A new course of bridge lessons have started on Monday afternoons at Nolton Church Hall from 3.30pm to 5.30pm and its not too late to join the course.

For more information, please contact Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968 or email Steve at steve@steveburgoyne.plus.com.

GJ